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Original Pictures of Life.

THE

PET FROM THE POOR HOUSE.

WRITTEN FOR THE SATURDAY EVENING POST.

BY MRS. ANN S. STEPHENS,

AUTHOR OF "MALINA GRAY," "DAVID HUNT," ETC., ETC.

[ENTERED ACCORDING TO ACT OF CONGRESS, IN THE YEAR 1848, BY DEACON & PETERSON, IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT COURT, OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA.]

CONTINUED.

CHAPTER III.

Oh, it is hard for rich men in their pride
To know how dear a thing it is to give
When, for sweet charity, the poor div de
The little substance upon which they live.
And from their scanty comforts take a share
To save a wretched brother from despair.

Chester was sitting by the fire, a serious expression had settled on his features, and he was pondering over the events of the evening, his mind reverting constantly in spite of himself to the conversation which he had held with the Mayor. Like most excitable persons, he found on reviving his feelings much much to regret in them. His impulse had been kind, his intention good, but notwithstanding this, the policeman was compelled to admit that his entrance into the Mayor's house was singular, his words impudent. Both were certainly justified by the occasion. Still Chester felt that he had made an enemy of one who had power to injure him deeply, and this thought gave a serious cast to his features.

Jane Chester had put her little charge to bed, and now drew a chair close to her husband and placed her hand upon him.

"You are tired, John," she said. "You seem worn out. Has anything gone wrong that you look so grave?"

"I fear, Jane," said Chester, turning his eyes upon the benign face of his wife with a look of deep affection; "I fear that I have not acted in the wisest manner to-night—by a few rash words I may have made an enemy."

"An enemy and of whom?" enquired the wife, entering at once alarmed, lest and soul, into any thing that disturbed her husband.

"One who has the power to harm us," said Chester, and seeing her look of anxiety, he told her all his interview with the Mayor, and the rash words he had used regarding the little girl. As Jane Chester listened, the anxious expression on her face gave way to a glow of generous indignation.

"Why, what else could you have done with the poor little thing—to the fearful state and the sin from which we fell off? Surely the Mayor deserved all that you said and more—he will be conscious of this and be glad to forget it."

"I don't know," said Chester, thoughtfully, "I should think he would feel anything but a frank and honest feeling of forgiveness."

"Well," said Jane Chester, hopefully, "we must not anticipate evil in this way. Let the Mayor be ever so angry he can't have the power to harm us. You can only be broken for bad conduct, and that we can defy him, you know."

Chester smiled, but more at the trust and confiding love that beamed in his wife's face, than from any confidence excited by her words. He had relieved his mind by this little confidential chat, and made no effort to be cheerful again.

Mrs. Chester turned and glanced toward the bed where her little guest lay quite still, and to all appearance asleep. She looked so comfortable in her short white gown and the little cap of spotted muslin that a smile stole over the clouds of care falling settled around the high forehead and hollow temples, the Mrs. Chester could not help smiling.

"How contented she looks," murmured the happy wife, pressing her husband's hand, and thus drawing his attention toward the little bed. "Do you ever see this a change in your life?"

"She does sleep very quietly and looks almost pretty, now that one cannot see how crooked she is. You are pleased that I brought her home, Jane?"

"Pleased, why yes, of course I am pleased, but then this is only for one night, John. What will become of her to-morrow?" and Mrs. Chester looked with a sort of pleading earnestness into her husband's face, as if she had something on her mind which she might not quite comfort.

"I know—it was that partly which made me a little down hearted just now. It will be hard for to go away to-morrow—she will feel it more much after this night, when you have made her so snug and comfortable."

"But why send her away," said Mrs. Chester softly, as if she were proposing something very wrong, only that her eyes were bent full at kindness, and a world of gentle persuasion lay in the smile with which she met his surprised look—it was a smile of anxious benevolence, if we may use the term.

"I we could afford it," said Chester, heaving a sigh, "but one—no, Jane, we must not think of this. remember I am in debt still. Let us be just before we are charitable. We have no right to give while we owe a cent which is not yet earned.

The smile left Jane Chester's face—she sighed and looked gravely in the fire; this view of the matter darkened her spirits; after a little her face brightened up.

"Well, John, I suppose you are right, but then what if I manage to keep the child and save just as much at the end of the week as usual; then it would be my own little charity, you know."

"But how can you manage that, Jane?"

"Well, one promise to let me have my own way—just promise that before we go another step—and I will manage it; you shall see."

Chester shook his head, and was about to speak, but his wife rose just then half leaning on his chair, her arm somewhat set around his neck, and leaning her red lips close to his cheek, she raised the only hand that was disengaged and folded the fingers over his mouth.

"Not a word, John—not a word; only promise to let me have my own way—I will have it—you know that well enough!"

"Well," said Chester, laughing, and trying to speak through the fingers that held his lips, "well, go on—I promise—only don't quite stop my breath!"

"Very well," said Jane Chester, removing her hand, and clasping it with the other that fell over his shoulder; "now you shall hear."

"With our little family, you know, I have a great deal of spare time."

"I don't know any such thing, Jane—you are always at work."

"Oh, yes, stitching your shirt-bosoms in plaits so fine that nobody can see them; ruffling Isabel's petticoats, and knitting lace to trim morning gowns and frocks—but what does that amount to?"

"Why, nothing, only you and Isabella always look so pretty and help-like with these things."

"Very well—but does all this stitching and fitting help to pay your debts?"

"No, perhaps not, but then it pleases me—it sends us into the world well dressed, and—"

"Gratifies your pride a little, hey," said Mrs. Chester, interrupting him. "Very well then, this shall not be all my own charity. You and Isabella shall help—we will all adopt the little lame girl.

"Well, what do you mean—what would you be at?"

"Why, just this—all the extra work that occupies me so much, we must do without; you shall be content with clean white linen, and Isabella's frocks and things must go with less trimmings—she is pretty enough without them, you know—then I can take to sewing, and earn enough to pay for what the poor little thing will eat. Perhaps the knows how to sew a little, at anyrate, she and Isabella will be busy about the house, and give me more time. There, now, isn't my plan a good one—after all, you will do the most for her—I shall only do about the same work as ever. You and Isabella will make all the sacrifices."

"I am afraid not," replied Chester, drawing his wife towards him and kissing her forehead—"but we shall make some. So I have often thought how dreadful it would be to have you—so pretty, so well educated—obliged to go round from shop to shop inquiring for work; and have thought with some pride, perhaps, that while I lived you should never come to this."

"But," said Mrs. Chester, with animation, "if we had no other way—if Isabella were crying for bread, then you would not object—you would give up this feeling of pride—for after all, it is only that."

"No, it is something more than pride, Jane," said Chester, tenderly. "I love to feel that your comforts are all earned by my own strength; that I am soul and body your protector. were I able, you should never soil these hands with labor again."

Mrs. Chester lifted the hand which clasped hers to her lips, and her eyes beamed with joy through the tears that filled them.

"I know all this, John, and it makes me love you! oh, how dearly! but then it is wrong—very, very delightful, but still wrong."

"Why wrong, Jane, I cannot understand that?"

"Wrong—way because it might, if I were only selfish enough to take advantage of your tenderness, make me a very useless, gossiping, idle sort of person."

"You would never become that, Jane."

"No, I should not like to become one of those chopping, chanting drones in the great hive of human life, who exist daintily on their husband's energies, making him the mere machine of money that would never excel but for the idea that it is refined and feminine to be useless. I would be a wife; a companion; a help to my husband."

"And so you are, all these and more," said Chester, gazing with delight on her animated face. "God bless you, Jane, for you have been to me a noble and true wife."

"Well, then, of course I am to have my own way now. This poor child, I shall not mind in the least asking about work, when she is in her bed."

"But the shop keepers, they will not know why you do this?"

"Well, what need I care for that?"

"They will think you have a very shiftless, or perhaps dissipated husband, who obliges you to go about among them begging for work."

"No—no, these minutes are not written in my face, John, they will never think that of me."

"Oh a widow, perhaps!" rejoined Chester, with a faint smile.

"Don't talk in that way, John," and Mrs. Chester's eyes filled with tears. "A widow—you widow—I should never live to be that. The very thought makes my heart grow cold. With you I can do anything—but alone—a widow—John, never mention that word again!"

Chester drew down his wife's head and kissed her cheek, very tenderly, smoothing her bright tresses with his hand the while.

"Why you should learn to think of these things without so much terror, Jane," he said, in a voice full of tenderness, but still sad, as of some unspeakable presentiment were overshadowing him.

"No—no—I cannot! Talk of something else, John; the little girl, we have forgotten her."

The husband and wife both looked toward the couch. The little girl had half risen, and with her elbow resting on the pillow, was regarding them intently with her large and glittering eyes.

"We have disturbed her!" said Jane Chester.

"How wide awake she is," and she went up to the couch.

"I could not help listening," said the child, sinking back on the pillow as Jane came up. "Besides, I want to say something. I can sew very nicely, and wash dishes, and sweep, and a great many other things, so you will let me stay—if you will only let me stay!"

"You shall stay—now go to sleep—you shall stay. Is it not so, John?" said Mrs. Chester, turning to her husband.

"Yes," said Chester, "the child shall stay with us; let her go to sleep."

They all slept sweetly that night; Chester, his wife, little Isabella and the orphan, and such dreams as they had—such soft, bright dreams. Could you have seen them slumbering beneath that humble roof, smiling tenderly on their pillows, you might have fancied that these little rooms were swarming with invisible angels—spirits from paradise that had come down to make a little heaven of the poor man's home. Indeed, I am not quite sure that the idea would have been all fancy—for Charity, that brightest spirit of heaven, was there, and what a glorious troop she always brings dancing in her train. Talk of dinging your bread upon the waters, waiting for it to be cast up after many days—why the very joy of casting the bread you have earned with your own strength upon the bright waves of humanity, is reward enough for the true heart.

CHAPTER IV.

Chester had business with the Chief of Police, and about nine o'clock the next morning, after his adventure with the orphan, he passed into the Park, through the south entrance, on his way to the Chief's office. At the same moment his Honor, the Mayor, came through a gate on the corner of Chamber Street, and walked with calm and stately deliberation toward the City Hall. Nothing could have been more precise or perfect than the gentleman such, which his tailor exhibited to the gaze of his constituents. Neatly fitting boots, square toed, and of the most elaborate manufacture, encased his feet. Not a speck defiled their high polish, the very dust and mud which intruders itself coolly into the habiliments of your common, warm hearted men seemed to shrink away chilled and repulsed by the commendable coldness that clung like an atmosphere around the Mayor of New York. The nap of his hat lay upon the crown shining and smooth as satin; so deeply and thoroughly was it brushed down into the stock, that it seemed as if a whirlwind would have failed to ripple the fur. His black coat, his satin vest and plaited shirt bosom presented a glossy and spotless surface to the winter sun. His black gloves—in New York we have a great many public funerals, and the city supplies mourning gloves to the Common Council—his black gloves were neatly buttoned, and above them lay his snow-white wristbands folded carefully over the cuffs of his coat, and his right hand grasped a pocket-looking cane which seemed part and parcel of the man.

A beautiful picture of official dignity was the Mayor as he crossed the Park that morning. An expression of bland courtesy lay upon his features—all the proprietor of life seemed obliterated in his slightest movement. Nothing save heat and gunlight was lacking that could ensure popularity, but this difficiency, if it does not render a man absolutely unpopular, chills all enthusiasm regarding him. A man must possess fire in himself before he can kindle up the electric warm that thrill the great popular heart. With all his propriety—with all his silky and subtle efforts, our Mayor was generally regarded with indifference. He was neither loved or hated sufficiently for the populace to know or care much about him. Yet Oily Gammon himself could not have presented a more perfect surface to the people. Still this man could hate like an Indian and sting like a viper. You would not have doubted that, had you seen him when he first encountered Chester in the Park. There was a glitter in his eye which you could not have mistaken. The moment he saw Chester turning an angle of the City Hall, this flash came and went, leaving his face unmoved as before, only that he almost smiled as the policeman drew near.

"And how is your little charge this morning?" said his honor, pausing in the walk where it curves to the back entrance of the City Hall. "Better, I hope?"

"Oh, yes, sir, much better," answered Chester, with generous warmth. "I thank your honor for enquiring."

"Suppose you are going to the Alms House Commissioner," rejoined the Mayor, glancing toward the long old building which runs along Chamber Street, where many of the public offices are held, "she will be well cared for at Bellevue."

Chester blushed as if he were speaking some fraud, and answered with embarrassment that the child would remain with him, at least for the present.

The Mayor looked perfectly satisfied with the answer he had evoked from him. He has mounted the steps and along the lobby, he occasionally saluted some lawyer that plunged by him with half a dozen callous books under his arm, and passed once or twice to exchange words with a street inspector or petty official, who formed the small wires of his political network.

The Mayor spent half an hour in his private office, closeted with his chief clerk, who had been busy over night preparing a speech which his honor was to deliver before some distinguished city guest the next day. In this speech the chief magistrate proved rather hard to please, as he was fond of high sounding words and poetical ideas, but found them very difficult to commit to memory.

In this case the clerk had done wonders, and taking a copy for study, his honor disposed himself in the great easy chair of his private room, with the manuscript before him, as if profoundly occupied with some intricate law opinion, and commenced the arduous task of committing the ideas of a better cultivated mind to his own shallow brain. While he was thus occupied, there entered from the outer office, where he had been conversing with the clerks, a heavy and somewhat pimpleless looking man, with sandy hair, light eyes and a mouth so coarse and sensual that it gave an impression of predominating animal appetites to his whole appearance. This man entered with a sort of good humored blustering air, and threw himself into a seat by the fire, carelessly shaking the Mayor's hand as he passed, as if quite certain of a good reception at all times.

"Busy making out a new vote case, I dare say" said the visiter, glancing at the sheet of manuscript which his honor held.

The Mayor folded up his unlearned speech, and turned quietly in his chair, dropped into a familiar conversation with this man about city matters, talking in a circle, and gradually drawing toward the subject which he had at heart, till it seemed to drop as quite by accident.

"Speaking of policemen," said the Mayor, "there is a man in one ward, alderman, whom I have heard of very often, lately, a tall, gentlemanly sort of a fellow—Chester, I think that is his name. Do you happen to know anything about him?"

"Chester—Chester—yes, I should think so. A fellow that reads like a minister and writes like a clerk; he is a perfect nuisance in the ward. You have no idea what mischief he does with his gentlemanly airs."

"What! a strong politician is he?"

"I hardly know; but he is not one of us, that is certain. Why, what do you think the impertinent fellow did by me?"

"Indeed I cannot guess."

"There was an emigrant family wandering about the streets in our ward, destitute, and you can hardly guess how miserable. The whole rest of them, father, old women and children, huddled together close by my bakery, one night, like so many wild animals, shivering with cold and hunger. It happened that we had taken rather more milk for the rank and things that day than was wanted, and it was getting sour; so, as people kept crowding round the emigrants, I sent out the boy with a tin gallon, and he distributed it, with a ladle, to the poor people to drink, with word that it came from the alderman of the ward. While I was watching them from the bakery window, this very Chester came up and took them, milk, pail and all, down to the station house, where they were led like brutes. The next morning the captain of the ward sent in his report, written out by this very Chester, and what do you think, sir, no mention was made of the milk!—not a word of what I had done—the whole story of their destitute situation was written out on foli, but not a word of the milk. He sent the pail home, and that was all."

"Certainly the fellow ought to be removed," said the Mayor, with difficulty suppressing a smile. "I wonder some one has never preferred charges against him."

"Plenty of our people have been lying in wait for him, but he is not to be trapped; he understands all the rules, and lives up to them. He never drinks—is always respectful—appears on his beat punctual as a clock. In short it is a hopeless case."

"Then it must be a sore singular one," said the Mayor, with a meaning smile. "Is there no good friend of your ward who would be glad of the situation?"

"Oh, yes—one to whom I have made a half promise; but we can get no hold on this Chester, he will baffle us still."

"Perhaps not. Let your friend, who is waiting for the situation, continue vigilant. If he is keen-sighted, his evidence will have weight with me."

Our Alderman of the Nineteenth looked hard at the Mayor, somewhat doubtful if he understood the whole meaning conveyed more in the glance than in the words of that honorable gentleman, who saw his perplexity and spoke again.

"You know, my dear friend, how far I would strain a point to serve you, but there must be some evidence—something, however slight, you understand,—which can be readily obtained against any man."

The Mayor saw by the smile that disturbed the heavy lip of his friend, that he was at length thoroughly understood.

"You know that there is no appeal from my decision," he added, with a smile.

"I comprehend," replied the alderman, standing up and rubbing his palms gleefully together, while he refreshed himself before the fire as if he had been rejoicing near a well heated oven in his own bakery, "I shall be managed. This is very kind of you, very kind, indeed. I shall not fur get it!"

"I think your friend may be sure of his situation," was the amiable reply, "you know it is our duty to watch these people well. I think your friend may deem himself secure."

"No doubt of it, now that we have a friend at court!"

"Oh, not a word of that," said the Mayor, lifting his hand reprovingly, "everything must be in order, according to rule, you know."

"To. Mayor smiled, while his friend laughed out, repeating to himself between each chuckle—"Oh, yes, according to rule—according to rule," and eager to undertake his new enterprise, the inflated gentleman took his leave, walking through the outer room with an exaggeration of his previous blustering importance, that quite astonished the clerks. Never since the day when he made his first shilling peddling doughnuts in a hand-basket, had the worthy alderman been so vividly conscious of his own personal importance. The Mayor looked after him with a bland smile till the worthy official was out of sight, then the smile glided into a contemptuous sneer, and muttering to himself—"The pompous block-head, he is so easily cajoled that one scarcely feels a pleasure in using him." And with these muttered words the noble hearted magistrate betook himself to the outer room, and throwing himself into a chair, he thought himself bound to follow up and maintain their consequences. Thus this saying exercised the greatest influence upon his opinions, his habits, and all the events of his life. Who could believe it of a man so learned and enlightened? And yet it was not such improbable, but true.

He was himself fully aware of this influence, and yet not only did he remain constant to his three words, but he was seriously anxious to impress his only son with the same conviction of their omnipotence. The poor lad was a cripple from young people, thought himself much more clear sighted than his old father, considered this as nothing more than a very singular mania.

"This little oddity, my dear father," he said, "may be excused in you, but only because it would be considered a mere piece of affectation, a ridiculous copying of you."

"It is possible, my dear Frederick," said the privy counsellor; "but you may let laugh those that will, while you have the satisfaction of the secret of prudence, repose, security and happiness. Think not that this maxim became habitual to me by mere chance. I adopted it upon and experience that led to manifest infection. I was to all the habits, of life, I am. The consequences of my rash, and despair, made me first lay hold of it—and once laid hold of, I raised myself by its help, and recomposed fortune. The little patrimony bequeathed to me by my parents only sufficed to enable me to subsist by dint of studying at quiet rates and yet, because I scrupulously avoided debt, I passed for having a comfortable competence, and was welcomed into society that would have disdained me, had people known that I was all the while content with bread and milk as my whole dietary. I was well received, and gained my fortune, yet I had but one honest friend amongst the men, and but one lady had ever engaged more than a passing thought, and preference in her, the daughter of a general officer, was hopeless, and would have married me, had I not prudently sailed upon my quiet unexpectedly. I was made chief-clerk in the dockyard-clerkship, with original pensions, and shortly after, a cousin died in Batavia, and left me a considerable property. Everything, in my life, has turned out just as I wished it, to leave my Philippina. I gave full powers to my friend Schmeemaker, the friend of my heart, my second self, and despatched him to America. You never before mentioned this friend to me," said Frederick.

"It is possible," answered the privy counsellor; "and I will soon tell you why. Alarmed for his health by his long delay and total silence, I sacrificed love to friendship, and leaving myself from my Philippina, while she, overcome with grief, was yet fainting in her mother's arms, I set out for Amsterdam. Suffice it to say, I discovered that my best friend had deceived me, and was by this time in America with the whole of my consignee's bagfuel. "It is impossible!" I cried, "it is impossible!" But soon I was obliged to say, "It is possible!" And I flew back to Philippina, to soothe the feelings wounded by the treachery of my friend, and again I was compelled to say, "It is possible," when the first greeting on my arrival at home was the announcement that, three days after the latter consoling the tidings of my loss, my betrothed had become the bride of another. I spare you my agonies. Henceforth I believed everything possible and good to me; and no matter how improbable any suggestion seemed, I replied, "It is possible!" In these three words was embodied my whole system of practical philosophy. I kept continually repeating them, till at length they became a comfort in sorrow—an antidote to despair. When I said to myself, 'Canst thou ever again be happy in this world?'—my lips formed the words, 'It is possible!' and the event justified the almost mechanical hope. I adopted the maxim, and no longer lived in an ideal world peopled either by angels or devils—the youthful heart seldom knows any medium. Henceforth good fortune had no power to intoxicate, for I thought of its instability, and said, 'It is possible,' and misfortune could neither surprise nor wholly depress me, for I was prepared for anything. Men in general act in the ordinary, as well as the more important concerns of life, upon a sudden impulse, for which they can hardly account, and of which they are almost unconscious. Take my advice, my son, adopt my maxim, were it only to give you the power of self-possession, and make you ready either to do or to suffer. Repeat it till you have made it your own. This, at least, is possible."

The favorite phrase of our privy-counsellor sometimes proved unpropitious; but he was not easily dejected. For instance, one day when the elector presided in person in the council, some tidings came upon the late French Revolution of 1830, and as the many changes were mentioned in the people who once so idolized their Kings, the elector exclaimed, "The French are the most abominable race on the face of the earth—no other nation could act as they have, when they say subjects never be being united with such madness—ever adjuring their allegiance to their Prince! What is your opinion, Stryk?"

The counsellor, just then in a fit of absence, had only half heard what the elector said, and shrugged his shoulders, and, mechanically, "It is possible."

The elector turned pale. "What do you mean?" he exclaimed. "Do you think that a king can ever deem when my subjects will rebelliously rise against me?"

"It is possible," again said the counsellor;—but this time he said it advisedly. "Nothing is more uncertain than popular opinion; for a people is made up of men, who have each an individual interest, which they prefer to that of the Prince. Any new order of things begets new hopes. Whatever may be the degree of love, and however well deserved, borne by the people to your highness, I would not swear that they would not, in new circumstances, forget the benefits of their Prince, and be ready to spurn at the electoral arms broken, to give place to the tree of liberty."

The elector turned his back upon him, and Stryk was disgraced. While every one cried,—What a fool, with his 'It is possible!'

A few years after, the victorious French passed the Rhine; the elector, with all his court, took to flight. As he departed, he saw the tree of liberty planted, and the armorial bearings of the electorate broken publicly by the people.

Stryk being called upon as a witness to the deposition so lately overthrown, was soon installed in the office which his talents so well fitted him to fill: and by his diplomatic ability, contributed not a little to the establishment of the new order of things, which, from the moderation of its character, he never suffered himself to be carried away by political enthusiasm. But attaching himself to no party, he became an object of suspicion to all. The Jacobins treated him as a concealed royalist, and the royalists as a disguised Jacobin. Still he cared not what name they gave him, and quietly went on with his official duty.

One day a commissary of the republic arrived in the new department, and was received with the greatest honors. All were crowding around him in eager to pay their court; and some amongst them ventured to throw out insinuations against Stryk, and the lukewarmness of his republican opinions. The commissary made no remark at the time; but one day, at a public dinner, at which many toasts were drunk to the prosperity of liberty, the rights of nations, and the triumphs of the republic, he suddenly turned to Stryk, saying, "I marvel that kings yet dare to resist us, for they do but thus accelerate their own ruin. The revolution is the mighty spirit of the globe. What hope is left to them? Do they dream of ever again bending the great nation, and bringing back the Bourbons? Fools that they are! all Europe must perish first! What think you, Citizen Stryk, can a nation more than half monarchy can ever be established in France?"

"It is possible," said Stryk.

"How possible?" cried the commissary, in a voice of thunder. "He who doubts of liberty has never loved it. It glistens me to see a public functionary, who has taken the oath, with a heart half-hearted, and with a little short of the little girl, we have forgotten her."

"Oh! you are a politician, sir; I am so glad, may come with me!" cried the boy, seizing hold of Chester's coat. "They are quarreling, you know, and quarreling in there, and one of them has a knife drawn."

Chester hastened across the street, for the angry voices were becoming louder, and the quarrel seemed to be under danger threatening. He entered the house, and ascended half way into private present, besides the owner, who stood back of a little immaculate marble counter with his arms folded, and evidently enjoying a scene of altercation that he carried on apparently with great relish. Chester was known as one of the men was fixing back against the counter in the scuffle, he merely curled lips on those half simply dentures with his arm, and laughingly told them not to interfere with their best friends. Thus throwing half his weight upon the counter again, he seemed to enter heart and soul into the dispute.

"There, there," he said, rising, as Chester came in, "we have had enough of this—here is the person. Give up, give up, both of you. Shake hands and take a drink—that is the way to settle these little matters. Come, Mr. Policeman, help me to pacify these two hot heads; what on you say to my recommendation, brandy and water all round?"

"That would be the best thing that I should recommend," said Chester, speaking in his usual bland and gentlemanly manner. "These two gentlemen, I doubt not, will insist to reason without firing up their blood with more strong drink."

"With more strong drink!" cried one of the men, turning upon him with an indignant carelessly from him; "why we haven't had a drop yet. It was thirst, sheer thirst, that made us both so ravage. Come, Smith, here is my hand. Let us drink and make up."

The man thus addressed rose from the rank against which he had been flung, and sullenly took the offered hand of his antagonist. Chester saw that the quarrel, if it ever had been serious, was now at an end, and turned to leave the store, but lower, the man, intimated that he was in a hurry, and whispered that it was only fear of the police that had so suddenly quarrel the men, and he enough him not to withdraw till they were ready to leave the establishment. Chester sat down the place and conversed with the men, who had at first been ready to remain, and he had great influence the two men as they drank together at the counter, boisterously knocking their glasses together in token of renewed friendship.

"Come, Mr. Policeman, take a glass," said Smith, when all the while had been that noisy. "You look pale as a ghost," and the man took a glass half full of brandy and brought it to the place by which Chester had drawn his chair.

Chester did indeed look pale, for coming out of the clear night air into the close, stifling atmosphere of a close store, and redolent with the mingled fumes of tobacco smoke and spirits, the atmosphere oppressed him with a sickening sensation—his head began to reel, and he felt unintelligible as he thought upon—of, he felt sickening. The man noticed his pallor, and, with a kind of half-drunken sympathy, he said, "Come, drink, man, it will do you good!" and he drank off the glass of brandy, and, with a half-smile, he said, "Thank you, sir, I am quite well." But he was seriously anxious to impress his only son with the same conviction of their omnipotence. The poor lad was a cripple from young people, thought himself much more clear sighted than his old father, considered this as nothing more than a very singular mania.

"This little oddity, my dear father," he said, "may be excused in you, but only because it would be considered a mere piece of affectation, a ridiculous copying of you."

"It is possible, my dear Frederick," said the privy counsellor; "but you may let laugh those that will, while you have the satisfaction of the secret of prudence, repose, security and happiness. Think not that this maxim became habitual to me by mere chance. I adopted it upon and experience that led to manifest infection. I was to all the habits, of life, I am. The consequences of my rash, and despair, made me first lay hold of it—and once laid hold of, I raised myself by its help, and recomposed fortune. The little patrimony bequeathed to me by my parents only sufficed to enable me to subsist by dint of studying at quiet rates and yet, because I scrupulously avoided debt, I passed for having a comfortable competence, and was welcomed into society that would have disdained me, had people known that I was all the while content with bread and milk as my whole dietary. I was well received, and gained my fortune, yet I had but one honest friend amongst the men, and but one lady had ever engaged more than a passing thought, and preference in her, the daughter of a general officer, was hopeless, and would have married me, had I not prudently sailed upon me unexpectedly. I was made chief-clerk in the dockyard-clerkship, with original pensions, and shortly after, a cousin died in Batavia, and left me a considerable property. Everything, in my life, has turned out just as I wished it, to leave my Philippina. I gave full powers to my friend Schmeemaker, the friend of my heart, my second self, and despatched him to America."

"You never before mentioned this friend to me," said Frederick.

"It is possible," answered the privy counsellor; "and I will soon tell you why. Alarmed for his health by his long delay and total silence, I sacrificed love to friendship, and leaving myself from my Philippina, while she, overcome with grief, was yet fainting in her mother's arms, I set out for Amsterdam. Suffice it to say, I discovered that my best friend had deceived me, and was by this time in America with the whole of my consignee's bagfuel. "It is impossible!" I cried, "it is impossible!" But soon I was obliged to say, "It is possible!" And I flew back to Philippina, to soothe the feelings wounded by the treachery of my friend, and again I was compelled to say, "It is possible," when the first greeting on my arrival at home was the announcement that, three days after the latter consoling the tidings of my loss, my betrothed had become the bride of another. I spare you my agonies. Henceforth I believed everything possible and good to me; and no matter how improbable any suggestion seemed, I replied, "It is possible!" In these three words was embodied my whole system of practical philosophy. I kept continually repeating them, till at length they became a comfort in sorrow—an antidote to despair. When I said to myself, 'Canst thou ever again be happy in this world?'—my lips formed the words, 'It is possible!' and the event justified the almost mechanical hope. I adopted the maxim, and no longer lived in an ideal world peopled either by angels or devils—the youthful heart seldom knows any medium. Henceforth good fortune had no power to intoxicate, for I thought of its instability, and said, 'It is possible,' and misfortune could neither surprise nor wholly depress me, for I was prepared for anything. Men in general act in the ordinary, as well as the more important concerns of life, upon a sudden impulse, for which they can hardly account, and of which they are almost unconscious. Take my advice, my son, adopt my maxim, were it only to give you the power of self-possession, and make you ready either to do or to suffer. Repeat it till you have made it your own. This, at least, is possible."

This answer was not forgotten, and his name was soon erased from the treasury list. When the allied powers invaded France, and Napoleon's creations were crumbling into ruins on every side, every one said, "Stryk is a prophet, and has had the fate of all seers."

He dies peace under the government of the usurper, as the fallen emperor was now termed, was sufficient claim upon the favor of the new legitimate monarch. But it was not long before his enemies found the opportunity to wound him, and his monarch giving him one day to understand that his adhesion to every successive government of tended to make his loyalty somewhat suspicious, the old man reminded him that he sincerely in his own moderate political views was proved by the fact, that he had the misfortune to displease only when each government pressed on too enthusiastically, and were not satisfied with his discharge of duty to his country, whoever might be the master.—"The state," he added, "has always need of the services of its citizens, and it is their duty to serve it in every circumstance."

"The state," said the prince, "is the sovereign. Who dares to separate his person from the state is a rebel in heart."

This was his last disgrace; but he was still faithful to the maxim that had taught him moderation, and at once salutary distrust and hopefulness. When the improbability of further political changes was pressed upon him, now that the Bourbons were restored to their throne, he answered, "It is possible. They want to go back to the Inquisition, to the holy alliance. The cause of truth, of civil and religious liberty, is attacked; the freedom of the press is assailed. Thus was it in the days that produced Frederick and Washington—thus was it in the days of the Bastille; thus was it in the time of the Fouches and the Rovigos. The same causes produce the same effects. It is possible."

But his maxim taught moderation to no one but himself, and the times days of 1830 proved its truth. Stryk and revolutionized the King of France into King of the French.

The oracle appearing no longer necessary to a ruler who was in his own person the very type of the vicissitudes of human life, it ceased. Stryk died. But who that has lived to see 1848 can decline to admit, of anything or everything, "It is possible!"

A DOMESTIC SKETCH.

BY MRS. SIGOURNEY

It is the duty of mothers to sustain the reverses of fortune. Frequent and sudden as they have been to our own country, it is important that young females should possess some employment by which they might obtain a livelihood, in case they should be reduced to the necessity of supporting themselves. When families are unexpectedly reduced from affluence to poverty, how painfully contemptible it is to see the mother desponding or helpless, and presenting her daughters to embarrass those who have the ability to assist and cheer.

"I have lost my whole fortune," said a mother, as a beloved one evening to his home.—"we can no longer keep our carriage. We must leave this large house. The children can no longer have their accustomed indulgences. I was a rich man, to-day there is nothing I can call my own."

"Dear husband," said the wife, "we are still rich in each other and our children. Money may pass away, but God has given us a better treasure in these native health and loving hearts."

"Dear father," said the children, "do not look so sober. We will help you to get a living."

"What can you do, poor things?" said he.

"You shall see, you shall see," answered several cheerful voices. "It is a pity if we have been to school for nothing. How can the father of eight children be poor? We shall work, and make you rich again."

"I shall help," said the youngest girl, hardly four years old. "I will not have any new things bought, and I shall sell my great doll."

The heart of the husband and father, which had sunk within his bosom like a stone, was lifted up. The sweet enthusiasm of the scene cheered him, and his mightly prayer was like a song of praise.

They left this stately home. The servants were dismissed. Pictures and plate, rich carpet and furniture were sold, and she who had been so long the mistress of the mansion, shed no tear.—"Pay every debt," said she, "let no one suffer through us, and we may yet be happy."

He rented a neat cottage and a small piece of ground a few miles from the city. With the aid of his sons he cultivated vegetables for the market. He viewed with delight and astonishment the economy of his wife, nurtured on she had been, in wealth, and the efficiency which his daughters soon acquired under her training.

The eldest one assisted her in the work of the household, and also instructed the younger children. Besides, they executed various works, which they had learned in accomplishments, for which they found could be disposed of to advantage. They embroidered with taste some of the ornamental parts of female apparel, which were readily sold to a merchant in the city.

They cultivated flowers, and sent bouquets to market in the cart that conveyed the vegetables; they plaited straw, they painted maps, they executed plain needle-work. Every one was at her post, busy and cheerful. The cottage was like a beehive.

"I never enjoyed such health before," said the father.

"And I never was so happy before," said the mother.

"We never knew how many things we could do, when we lived in the great house," said the children, "and we love each other a great deal better here. You call us your little bees."

"Yes," replied the father, "and you make just such honey as the bees take to feed on."

Economy, as well as industry, was strictly observed, nothing was wasted. Nothing unnecessary was purchased. The eldest daughter became assistant teacher in a distinguished female seminary, and the second took her place as instructress to the family.

The little dwelling, which had always been neat, they were soon able to beautify. Its construction was improved, and the vines and flowering trees were replanted around it. The merchant was happier under his sycamore covered porch, in a summer's evening, than he had been in his showy dressing-room.

"We are now thriving and prosperous," said he, "shall we return to the city?"

"Oh, no, no," was the unanimous reply.

"Let us remain," said the wife, "where we have found health and contentment."

"Father," said the youngest, "all we children hope you are not going to be rich again; for then," she added, "we little ones were shut up in the nursery, and did not see much of you or mother. Now we are always together, and sister, who leaves us teacher, sits and we learn to be industrious and merry! We never more of us happy when we were rich and had not work. So, father, please not to be rich again any more."

☞ In Albany the blackamoor carpet there shone, and have arm-chairs for the horses to sit in while having their shoes fitted. This is a great age, and "gracious only knows" where it will bring up.

Marriage Customs.

MARRIAGE IN DIFFERENT NATIONS.

FROM THE NEW YORK DISPATCH.

From the marriage customs of the Greeks and Romans, we come naturally to those of the more worthy nations of Europe. Among all these, we find the most striking similarity. Fierce as were these northern barbarians in war, they were far superior to their Southern and more refined neighbors in their regard and respect for women. They were treated as superior beings, to be loved, and cherished, and honored. From the remotest antiquity these nations had generally practised a strict monogamy, and this marriage to a single wife was of a very solemn character. The father or guardian gave away his daughter with words to this effect:

"I give thee my daughter in honorable wedlock, to have the half of the bed, the keeping of the keys of the house, one-third of the money thus art at present possessed of, to self cause the happiness of the country. "Go, earn thy wife," say they, "a good husband' must be able to earn bread for his family." The lover almost invariably returns one bought, bringing the proceeds of his industry, with the jewels of his wife arising from his lot, which had been used there by the dol of his parent.

In some parts of Russia young people are solemnly betrothed, in presence of their families. A garment of skin is spread on the ground, and the young people kneel upon it. When they have interchanged rings, the priest gives to their hands one of the household saints, and pronounces a benediction. In former times, he gave his daughter four small attacks of the whip, and then delivered the instrument of punishment to his future son-in-law, perhaps in the same manner as Jacob, but this brutal custom is now abolished. Russian husbands were formerly invested with power of life and death over their wives and children; but this law is ameliorated. In Scotland and some other parts of Great Britain, lovers, when they plight their troth to each other, break a small coin, and each one wears half of it next the heart.

In Scotland, a mutual promise to consider each other husband and wife, if it be given in the presence of two witnesses, constitutes a lawful marriage; and in that country, as well as some parts of Germany, if a man makes public acknowledgment that he considers a woman as his wife, it gives her, and all the children she may have borne to him, the same legal rights that she would have had, if the marriage had been duly solemnized.

It is a general custom in all parts of Christendom for parents to give a dowry with their daughters, proportioned to their wealth; even the poorest generally contrive to bestow a few articles of clothing or furniture. It is likewise an universal practice for friends to send presents to the bride, a few days previous to the wedding. When the Welsh peasantry are about to enter into the marriage state, they send a man round to their friends to inform them of the fact, and invite any one who may please to bestow will be gratefully received, and cheerfully repaid on a similar occasion. After the wedding party have partaken a frugal entertainment of bread and cheese, a plate is placed on the table to collect the money given, and the young couple generally receive as much as fifty or a hundred pounds to furnish their household establishment. The village girls, in nearly all countries, are ambitious about having a few pieces of cloth and cambric, woven in read

Original Essay.

CHAPTERS ON NEWSPAPERS.

WRITTEN FOR THE SATURDAY EVENING POST, BY AMBROSE SHORT.

IV.—ADVERTISERS AND IMPOSTORS.

Allow us, gentle reader, to relieve our minds before we begin this chapter, by making a confession. We are afraid we may be rather long; a sin which those who hear our name should not commit. But we have a good deal to say, and it may be that you are tired of our incessantness; and therefore we mean this chapter to end the whole matter. However, we will try to comment time that we may be as short as we can.

ADVERTISING, or making matters known through the public press, is the best paying part of a newspaper, both to the proprietors, and to the merchant or professional man who uses this mighty piece of machinery. Here it is a practice of very old standing. The earliest known newspaper advertisement to England, made its appearance exactly two hundred years ago, in the *Impartial Intelligencer*, and related to horse-stealing. It has ever been a doubt, however, whether the thief would not be disposed to charge *partiality* upon the *Impartial Intelligencer*, and insist upon it that he was treated with unfairness.

The importance of advertising is a theme on which some of our contemporaries often dilate with great eloquence and force. Our neighbor of the *Times*, some time since, published as the secret of success in trade, the following lines:—

"He that is the world would rise
Must take care about advertising."

Our Englishfriends seem to be fully aware of the importance of this matter. Here is a specimen, from one of their papers, with the omission of the merchant's name. We do not omit this and other names because we have a law in England, the fear of advertisement duty before our eyes, but because we have not regularly received orders to print said advertisements, it might offend the parties, and moreover would look like injustice to a thousand other kindred illustrations of our principles, which we are compelled to omit. Now for our English extract:—

"*Nothing like Advertising.*—A Cheltenham tradesman, Mr. ———, lately addressed a letter to the Board of Taxes, inquiring if the cost of newspaper advertisements, handbills, circulars, &c. might be deducted in income-tax returns. Mr. Pressly, the Secretary of taxes, replied, 'that money, wisely and exclusively laid out and expended for the purpose of his trade, might be deducted.' Tradesmen (as Pat would say) the more a tradesman spends in advertising, the more he will save."

Returning to our own country—the editor of the Indiana Register gives his readers good advice. He says "if you want goods cheap, go where they advertise cheap. Merchants who are too stingy to advertise, are too tight to give you a fair bargain."

From a thousand and one curious specimens of advertising adopted by different parties, we copy a few of the most recent. Those who have teeth, as a contemporary says, may prepare to show them in a good hearty laugh:—

A CAST IRON MAN—Boston is destined to be the magic lantern of the world, yet; every day she produces some wondrous invention; and we learned yesterday that a certain famed ingenious mechanic, has made a man out of iron, so perfect in form and detail, that he whistles Yankee Doodle and dances a jig! We don't vouch for the truth of this rumor, but we can produce hundreds of persons who have used ——— in cases of ———, &c., and they vouch for its great healing and soothing powers.

Another:

ESKIMO.—The news from England is peaceable; the Chartist demonstration has ended tranquilly, and Queen Victoria is still the sovereign of millions. Trade in general is dull, but some articles of American manufacture are in eager demand, and amongst the foremost is ——— for the hair. The Queen has given orders for a large quantity, as she intends introducing it into the Royal nursery.

And yet another:—

A PAINFUL SIGHT.—A case, singularly distressing, occurred yesterday at the store of ———. These gentlemen have been advertising an article called ———, pretty extensively, and we believe it has sold well, and been highly useful in curing burns, wounds, &c. Well, a middle-aged, ernest-looking man, called at the store, and asking for Mr. ———, that gentleman came forward—the stranger looked wistfully in his face, then whispered mournfully, "You sell an article that cures wounds." "Yes, sir, I do sell such an article," the stranger." "Yes, ———, that's it." "Ah!" moaned the stranger. "Are you wounded?" said ———. "Yes, dreadfully," said the stranger "Where—how?" asked ———. "Here—here!" said the stranger, in low tones, shrinking his robe, "here in my heart, by a black-eyed widow over in Cumberland!" ——— put up the salve, and recommended the stranger to take a *pleasant excursion* round the world to a—*whole ship!*

But, to come nearer home, here is one relating to our own city:—

HORRIBLE OCCURRENCE.—What has Wm. Penn to do with horse pills? How could that decent old Quaker gentleman desire to have his portrait placed check by jowl with the phiz of a lecture-jobber?

Oh virtue shamed—behold! William Penn
Gives consummated to swallow grass!
Look at the venerable face, and then
You'll know there's mischief in the dose.
An angel's aspect might not dull
Sound critics purchaser to snarl,
But here's a warning in portrait!
Behind the visage of Old Quaker!
[Not Signor Blitz!]
A demon in a Bengal's figure
Might put your window to the proof
But whence the use, and to our cost
Behind the horse and cutter hoof

Unhappy invalid, be not misled by burlesque engraving, seducing you to purchase spurious medicines. Try only, Sir, Sir.

But a Yankee neighbor hails all his advertisers a patent medicine, which to be of real value, must be taken internally, externally, and eternally!

But to pass now to the last part of our prime on newspapers—A man who leaves his family will take a newspaper; and a man who respects his family will pay for it. A paper received is true without paying paying subscribers. And as the printer and editor must promptly issue their sheet to the day, whether full or hungry, be sure always to pay in advance, and let it not be understood, that you are the printer. It is much easier to pay in advance, than to pay a debt that has been accumulating for years. You will read with more enjoyment, and far better improvement, when honestly you paid your money, my paper is paid for. The printer's dues are honest dues, and he wishes he worked hard. Cheer up then the publishers of your paper, by subscribing and paying for it.

The Boston Watchman, some time ago, told this tale:—

"Father, what does the printer live on?" "Why child?" "You said you hadn't paid him for time or three years, and yet you have his paper every week!" "Take the child out of the room—he had does he know about right and wrong!"

We take the following from a St. Domingo paper, but really it looks like our own city:—

SINGULAR DEATH.—On Monday afternoon, a great deal of interest and curiosity was excited by the fact of a bell, line looking man, being seen leisurely promenading along Second street, wearing a coat on the back of which, in large staring gilt letters, were the words "DAGUERREAN DOC." As a matter of course, he was the "observed of all observers," and a time of the curious followers of his brain. Wondering all the night, and unable to comprehend the cause of the inquiry, he ascertained that he was employed by an American advertiser, for the purpose of collecting impudent bills, and claiming dentists into the payment of their debts. He operates in this manner when he has a bill to collect. He dresses in stages of the debtor, and the large letters on his back tell to passers by what his errand is, and at the same time, gives a lonely caution against trusting the owner of the house. Any person that harrassed would assure pay for his then bete the Doc-fellow upon him immediately, with the great letters upon his back. It is the bill against a person whom he cannot catch anywhere except in the street, he presents his account much to the shame of the debtor, who is pointed and shunned by every one as a person not to be trusted. The "Doc" appears to be a determined man, possessed of the greatest *sang froid*, and not to be frightened at trifles. Those who have had better luck waiting out pay unceremoniously, to the "Doc" may give them a call.

The Boston Cultivator tells a good story on this subject:—It was the case of its subscribers was much troubled with the nightmare, and applied several remedies to no good effect, till not exceedingly tasted bile to be had, and for his newspaper! On going to see, he found he was in arrears two years. He at once paid up, and slept soundly for three or four nights, but finding the trouble might come on again, he went to the office, and paid a year in advance! That has proved an efficient cure, and so don't recommended to all like cases.

Our friends in Boston—for it must not be supposed that this matter of delay in paying for newspapers is confined to the United States—have a perfect horror of the crime. Here is an extract from *Mordecai* on the subject:—

REPRESENTATIVE ANNOUNCEMENT.—Some people have a horror of announcements. A strong letter to a foreign patient, with a piece of crape over his face, and a pennin in his hand, is certainly a disagreeable thing; or a country gentleman in the middle of a dark night of December; the hoarse whisper conveying a delicate address to your money bags—your life, is far from a pleasing method of carrying on a conversation; and therefore without demanding in any more minute particulars, and pleading appeal upon any personal community from each other, we will proceed to the business, I agree at once, that a house breaker is a desirable character, and worthy of all consideration. A thief also, I am not prepared to vindicate. A bold incursion into the mansion of an elderly gentleman in a half sleepy state after a bottle of old port—a rouse drawn across a beautiful bannist's throat—or a bullet scientifically inserted through the carcass of a dear old lady engaged opening her half-yearly dividend in a black trunk in the parlor—are praiseworthy objects of contemplation in the philanthropic mind; and I therefore do some reliable in the fervent execration in which the murderer is held by every person I have conversed with on the subject, whether the mode is of assassinating and twenty or three popular authors of the sanctimonious school. But there is a movement for whom I have no commiseration; a wretch, compared with whom atrocities bamboozling become meritorious, between whom nuggs like blackmail—to borrow the language of Charles Phillips—the darkness of annihilation becomes as white as snow. After this description, need I say that I mean the unfeelingest monster who neglects to pay his NEWSPAPER BILL.

But to return home. The ladies of Louisiana are said to have adopted a rule, never to marry a man who owns a printer more than one year's subscription. A down-east editor asks his subscribers to pay up, that he may play a similar *jade* upon his creditors; adding, "We like to see a good joke go round." Another down-east editor wonders why his subscribers, who are so rampant for Oregon, will not walk up and pay their subscription, after having had more than "a year's notice," to show that the payment would be very desirable.

Here is another worthy extract from a distant part of our continent:—

SERVANT HIM RIGHT.—A long-winded subscriber to a newspaper after repeated dunnings presented the bill he should be paid by a certain day, if he were then alive. The day passed over, and *no money reached the office.*

In the number, therefore, of the newspaper, the editor inserted among the deaths a notice of his subscriber's departure from this life. Pretty soon after this announcement the subject of it appeared to the editor—not with the pale and ghastly countenance usually ascribed to apparitions, nor like them did he wait to be spoken to, but broke silence with—"What, sir, did you mean by publishing my death?" "Why, sir, I mean what I mean when I publish the death of any other person, viz: to let the world know that you are dead." "Well, but I am not dead." "Not dead! then it is your own fault; for you told me you would positively pay your bill by such a day, if you lived to that time. The day passed, the bill is not paid, and you positively must be dead; for I will not believe that you would forfeit your word." "Oh, ha! I see you have got round me, Mr. Editor, but say more about it, here's the money. And harkee, my wag! you'll contradict my death next week?" "Oh! certainly, sir, just to please you—though, upon my word, I can't help thinking you were dead at the time specified, and that you have really come back to pay this bill on account of your friendship to me."

Here is a very different one:—An editor in Vermont says: "A friend informs us that he could send us a marriage notice, but as the young gentleman does not take a paper, he does not think editors are under any obligation to publish his marriage."

The editor of the Western Episcopalian, heads his weekly list of receipts "Legion of Honor," a very appropriate heading, certainly, for we receive it to be a very honorable business to pay a poor printer for his paper. But to what "*legion*" does the man belong, who will *not pay for his paper?*

After these various gentle hints, we are persuaded that thousands will imitate a writer in one of our papers, who, in sending his advance subscription money, says to the editor—"I wish to pay for my paper in advance; I never like to read an editor's paper as well as I do my own."

The editor of the Sandusky Clarion thus heads the prospectus of his paper, and keeps the following liberal offer among his standing terms:—"To such as are unable to take the paper at these prices, we will read it, whenever they will assume in companies of fifty or more, in front of our office, on a warm day, free gratis for nothing. Any of our present subscribers may avail themselves of these rates by paying arrearages."

Add now to "conquer" a class. We copy, as a compendium of this chapter, the following enumeration of deadly sins from the St. Louis *Reveille*:—

1. Refusing to take a newspaper.
2. Taking a newspaper, and not paying for it.
3. Not advertising.
4. Advertising, and not paying for it.
5. Making a printing office a loafing place. [Never done in Philadelphia.]
6. Reading manuscript in the hands of the compositor.

Now for a rhyme, and, sir, attentive reader—*farewell!*

THE PRINTER'S HOUR OF PEACE.

Know ye the *Printer's* hour of peace?
Know ye an hour more dear than ease?
Than ease to the man of Greece,
When hoed by Venus' young boy?

'Tis not when round the many case,
His nimble fingers kiss the type,
Nor is it when, with brightened face,
The *press* groans at his gripes.

'Tis not when news of dreadful note
His columns all with disease fill;
'Tis not when brother-Printers quote
Th' effusion of his stump-work quill

'Tis not when in *Miss Fanny's* glass
Long *debutantes* meet his eye,
And seem to whisper as they pass,
"We'll grace your columns by and by"

No—reader—no—the Printer's hour,
His hour of real sweet repose,
Is not when by some magic power
His list of Patrons only grows.

But, oh, 'tis when the winter's close,
Or cool in hot, or rain, or vapor,
He hears in accents soft and dear—
"I've come to PAY you for the PAPER."

Varieties.

ARTICLE GRATIS.—If you are a physician just starting on your own hook, take the precaution to be made yourself familiar with any one—not even with the beautiful wax-eyes—but wear a long face and knotty scowl. Speak but seldom; and when you do say something stern, laconic, sarcastic. Let your lips be compressed, as though your mind was absorbed with the deepest anxiety. Do not yourself with a constant solemnity, which will indicate to common folks that you appreciate the immensely important duties and responsibilities of your calling. Strictly observe your rules and regulations, and, though ignorant as the physic as a horse-block, you are a "made man."

If you are a young lawyer and would be called "very smart," "very gifted," "highly intellectual," or any of those old sayes which the ignorant apply when pressed by a bit in factory, are apt to flout use of, you must wear large specs, put a big book under your arm, and walk leisurely through the streets every day. While in a barroom, or at your docket place, with friends, make no remarks until all the rest have had their say, but pick your tooth-pick, look grave, and ponder philosophically on the law cunning, and all the minor deputies of human failure. When you offer advice, or an opinion, be loathe if an attitude the prejudices of the hearer, and you will in due time be characterized as a "sound thinker;" "distinguished jurist;" "one of our best men;" and much similar soft soap—*Sunday Dispatch.*

WRITING BOOKS.—Few people, except builders, are aware of the advantages of writing books house laying them. A man twelve inches thick, built up with good mortar, with brick well soaked, and stamped in every respect like one entire brick built dry. The reason of this is, that if the bricks are saturated with water they will not abstract from the mortar the moisture which is necessary to its crystallization, and, on the contrary the mortar will imbibe immediately with the mortar, and become as solid as a rock. On the other hand, if the bricks are put up dry, they immediately take all the moisture from the mortar, leave it too soft to harden, and the consequence is that when a building of this description is taken down, of its own accord the mortar falls from it like so much sand.—*N. Y. Sun.*

A BOAT PLANT.—At a late meeting of the Farmers' Club in New York, Lieut. Washington A. Bartlett, U. S. N., presented two bulbs of the *Pontederia* or Boat Plant, of California. The bulbs are used throughout California, for washing every description of clothing, in cold running water. In using them as soap, the women cut off the roots from the bulbs and rub them on the clothes, and a rich and strong lather is formed which cleanses them thoroughly. To propagate the plant, the bulbs are set in a moist, rich soil, and grow most luxuriantly in the soft bottoms of valleys bordering on running streams.

COMMANDER OF THE MULES.—During the march of one of the divisions of the army from Vera Cruz to Jalapa, a teamster was heard to curse and swear very severely at his mules. The General, who did not happen to be in uniform, rode up to him, and peremptorily ordered him to stop the noise.

"And who the ——— are you?" said the driver.

"I am the commander of the division."

"Well, then, command your division! I am commander of the mules, and I'll bullet and swear as I can as I please!"

The General rode forward.

TRAINING OFFS THE BONNETS.—Certainly one of the signs of "times bad times" is what I call *searching upon the reached.* We seem anxious to leave as little time as possible between childhood and manhood. We rot short by every means in our power, that precious season when the mind is gloriously opening to the cares of life, and by books and company we often hurry our children, into those cares before we have prepared them how to conduct themselves under them.

United States SATURDAY POST.

HENRY PETERSON, EDITOR.

Philadelphia: SATURDAY, JULY 8, 1848.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

W. O. C. One subscriber may well that some new arrangement should be made by the Post Office to facilitate the transmission of money to publishers. We trust the system of drafts, will yet be received, revised and improved. The poetry he sends, we *think*, will find a place in our columns. The ideas are very pertinent, though there is occasionally a failure in their expression.

REMORSE. "For a Young Lady's Album," "The South Wind," "Sonnets by F," "The Dying Child," and "On the Death of One Beloved" are received, and under consideration.

TO POSTMASTERS.

We trust our old friends, the Postmasters, will count themselves and get up large clubs for the mammoth Post; or if they do not feel inclined to take advantage of our liberal offers themselves, that they will show our Prospectus to some other influential and responsible person who will be willing to do so. We think there need be no great difficulty in getting subscribers in the enlarged paper, on those who will take the trouble to compare it with the other weekly papers, cannot fail to perceive that it stands without competition. Let it be remembered, also, that the postage *is just the same on a first class paper, as on the smallest and poorest of the small reprints.*

NOTICE.

Subscribers wishing their paper changed, will please give the name of the Post Office to be changed from, as well as the Post Office they wish it hereafter sent to.

All persons addressing letters to us should be careful to give the name of the State as well as of the town in which they live.

Post Masters or others sending for a club, would confer a favor by having them sent to one address when they can do so conveniently. ks

EXTRAVAGANCE.

There is hardly a more common error, especially among the wealthier classes of society, than that of justifying extravagance of living as a duty to the poor. The man who yearly wastes thousands of dollars in gorgeous furniture, expensive clothing, magnificent buildings, &c., justifies himself to his own heart, on the plea that he is really, in doing these things, being God service. Very probably, the longer he thinks about the matter, the more convinced does he become that his extravagance is not only justifiable, but very praiseworthy; and the inquiry which begun with fearful misgivings as to what answer he should render at the great day of account, to the command, "Steward, give an account of thy stewardship," ends in the conviction that instead of being selfish, he is one of the most charitable and deserving of men.

Now, it is our purpose to prove in a few words, that the almost universal mode of reasoning on this subject, is unsound and fallacious; and that the prejudice against extravagance, which has come down to us from our forefathers, is not one founded upon mistaken notions of things.

We will take the case of a man who has a yearly income of three thousand dollars, and who can live comfortably on two thousand a year. He has then a thousand dollars over, which he can devote either to selfish or liberal purposes. Suppose he spends that overplus of a thousand dollars yearly, in adding to the magnificence of his mansion, his house, or invests it in other unproductive ways; we grant that in so doing, he will pay it away in wages to artisans, &c., but he withdraws that much from the productive capital of the world the artisan receives work in the simple amount of the one thousand dollars, but the one thousand days' work which they have given for it is so much dead capital. They might as well have been employed in digging a ditch and filling it up again.

But suppose that that money, instead of being invested in clothing, ornaments, &c., had been employed in some *useful* way, in business, manufacturing, farming, &c. The artisans would still have had the same amount of work and wages, and the product of their work would be a house that might be lived in, or cloth that might be worn, or food that might be consumed.

Or, to make the illustration still more simple, and prove to the extravagant man that he is not a charitable one—he does not see the difference between taking a thousand dollars and purchasing jewelry with it to wear on his person, and taking the same thousand dollars and buying bread with it for the sufferers by a famine! In both cases the original thousand is paid to the working classes; but in the former the work of many men for many weeks is squandered on the vanities of one man; while in the other it is employed in ministering to the necessities of hundreds. In all the ages of the world, have men been looked by the artist, but because the chain is wholly out of place. If the beautiful slave is supposed to have been carefully kept in chains, yet when her beauty was exposed to tempt a brutal purchaser, her chains must be supposed to have been removed with her garments. Why then was the chain retained? To prevent escape? Her unclad condition were simple security against that, more effectual than double irons. The use of iron is confined to the light of the world, and some progress in humanity. A people civilized enough to make chains of iron would never dream of putting them on beautiful women; and this not on the score of humanity, but on the score of taste. The Venus de Medicis would be spoiled if there was an iron chain, and the perfection of female beauty. One can almost hear the old Turk, who came to buy the slave, growling out a curse in the name of Allah, not merely on the useless barbarity, but on the unsightliness, of that appendage.

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THE FOREIGN NEWS.

Upon careful reading of the news as respects France, we do not think the facts of the case beat out the strong statements of the English journals. They only confirm what we stated in the present week, that the prospect of Louis Napoleon and the Empire. Louis Napoleon himself and the rest of the Bonaparte family, profess the utmost devotion to the Republic; and as to the admission of Louis Napoleon to the seat in the Assembly, and his being made President, we think this was only just, and perfectly right. We do not believe, and we shall not believe, until we see certain evidence of it, that the great mass of the people of France are willing to abandon the Republic, and choose any man, a Bonaparte or anybody else, Emperor. We are strengthened in this opinion by the fact that the same Assembly which voted Louis Napoleon into his seat by a large majority, also voted a bill for secret service money, which was considered the legal or a vote of confidence in the Government, by a vote of 568 ayes to 112 nays.

The second edition of the London Times, of the 19th ult., says, that the draft of the French Constitution was expunged of the clause which stipulated that it would recommend a President who should hold office for four years, and that M. Ango would probably be selected for the post Prince Louis Napoleon was also spoken of, but it is believed, to bring him into discredit. A very strong petition to the Assembly was in course of signature, recommending M. Cousse there for office. "Strange to say," observes the correspondent of the Times, "neither M. Lamartine nor M. Ledru Rollin are mentioned as candidates."

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THE SLAVE TRADE.

The Rev. Mr. Thompson, a Missionary sent out to Africa by the American Missionary Association, has written home of his safe arrival at Sierra Leone.

While at that place, a captured slaver was brought in, and he went on board of her. There were five hundred slaves on board; ten had died after her capture. Mr. Thompson says—"The deck was literally covered with men and women and children, some lying down, some sitting, some standing. Many of them were quite small boys and girls—many of them were mothers and all quite naked. Below were crowded two or three hundred, between floors not exceeding 2½ feet apart. Men sitting flat on the floor, cannot sit up straight, and there they are crowded in as close as they can be jammed; the first row sitting on the floor with their backs against the side or end of the vessel, then another row sitting in the same way crowded close in between their legs, and so on as many as they can crowd in. Their they sit week after week in all their filth and stench and sickness and death!"

THE OTTAWAS.

We learn from the Washington Union, that by the census of the Indian tribes, which is now being taken, it is shown that the seven small bands of Ottawas about Michilimackinac, numbering about 700 souls, who rely wholly on agriculture for a subsistence, have raised, during the last season, 25,000 bushels of corn, and 40,000 bushels of potatoes. They also made, the past Spring, 365,000 pounds, or over 147 tons, of maple sugar, which is worth, at the Mackinac market, seven cents per pound—making $22,750 on sugar alone. Corn is worth, at the same place, 50 cents, and potatoes 37½ cents per bushel. This single example shows what the Indian tribes could do *for themselves*, were they all to make a bold appeal to agriculture for a living, and abandon the chase.

SINGULAR PHENOMENON.

In Greenfield, Michigan, recently, while boring for water, when the augur was withdrawn, it was followed by a violent current of air and water that threw up stones as large as hen eggs, ten or fifteen feet high. The water, however, soon ceased coming, and the air caught from a flame and flashed so high that the hole had to be closed. It has been opened several times since with the same effect. The power and force of the air does not seem to diminish in the least. The people of Detroit are talking of having it conveyed into that city to light it. We wish we had such a natural gas generator in the neighborhood of Philadelphia.

RELIEF NOTES.

Numbers of Pennsylvania Relief Notes are said to be in circulation, altered from one's to two's and five's. This is effected by pasting over the figure "1" and the word "one," the figure "5" and the word "five," and so with the two's, and in some cases in many cases very neatly. The Cattle Volunteer says that great numbers of these altered notes have recently been presented at the State Treasury office. The fraud is generally committed on such notes as are most torn and defaced, and it is not confined to any particular bank.

From Washington.

CONGRESSIONAL NEWS.

SENATE.

On the 27th, Mr. Atchison, the President pro. tem. called the Senate to order at the usual hour, and submitted an invitation from the Washington National Monument Association, to attend the ceremonies of laying the corner stone on the Fourth of July. Mr. Clayton submitted a resolution, accepting the invitation, which was adopted.

Mr. Hale gave notice that he would move for leave to introduce a Bill to prevent speculation in the public lands, and to open the same to actual settlers and cultivators.

Mr. Dix presented a highly interesting memorial from Miss Dix, respecting the amelioration of the condition of the indigent insane, and praying that a portion of the public lands in each State be appropriated to supply the means required. On motion of Mr. Dix, the subject was referred to a Select Committee, and 5,000 copies ordered to be printed. Several more were ordered to be printed for the Senate.

Mr. Niles, on leave, introduced a bill to set apart and sell to Ann Whitney, a portion of the public lands to aid him in the construction of his railroad in the Pacific. Referred to a Select Committee and ordered to be printed.

The Senate then, on motion, resumed the consideration of the Oregon Bill.

Mr. Bright, of Missouri, gave notice that he would move the Missouri Compromise as an amendment to the Oregon Bill at the proper time.

A Message being entitled to the floor, addressed the Senate at length in support of the doctrine that Congress had no power to legislate on the subject, and demanding that all acquired territory should be left open to every portion of the people to settle upon it, and to carry slaves there if they choose.

The speech was listened to with great attention by the Senators and a large audience, the galleries being crowded in every direction.

On motion of Mr. Atherton, the Post Office Appropriation Bill was taken up, and sundry amendments were adopted to the same.

On the 28th, on motion of Mr. Rusk, the bill was taken up providing for the incorporation of the Navy of Texas with that of the United States. It was called a vast and second time, and made the order for the following Thursday.

The House resolution, relating to the mode of establishing by evidence heirship for claimants of pensions, was finally passed.

The joint resolution removing the disability of mail contractors incurred by entering into combinations, or a taken up, and after some immaterial amendments, passed finally.

On motion of Mr. Atherton, the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the bill making appropriations for fortifications.

Mr. Atherton offered an amendment appropriating $50,000 for the improvement of Fort Delaware, on the Fox Patch Island. The bill was then informally laid aside.

The Senate then proceeded to the consideration of the Oregon Territorial Bill.

Mr. Bevien addressed the Senate—he had always carefully abstained from discussing the important question of slavery now presented, and had always endeavored to prevent any such discussion, by a steadfast opposition to the acquisition of new territory. But as the question was now forced upon them, it became the Senate to meet it. He denied the right of Congress to legislate on the subject of slavery, and argued the question at length.

On the 29th, Mr. Cowan, from the Committee on Public Lands, reported a bill allowing further time for locating Virginia Military Land Warrants.

Mr. Butler, Chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary, reported the bill from the House, extending the jurisdiction of the State of Texas to the middle of the Sabine river, which, after debate, was read for the third time and finally passed.

Agreeably to notice, Mr. Rusk asked and obtained leave to bring in a bill establishing a collection district at Boca Santiago, Texas. The bill was read the first and second times, by unanimous consent, and referred to the Committee on Commerce.

Mr. Hamlin also obtained leave to bring in a bill making Bangor, Maine, a port of entry. Read twice, and referred to the Committee on Commerce.

The bill to provide for the survey of the mouth of Red River was passed.

Mr. Kennedy Johnson submitted a resolution for consideration, ordering ten thousand copies beyond the ordinary number, of the memorial of the Chicago Convention, to be printed for the use of the Senate.

The consideration of the Oregon Bill was then resumed. Mr. Pinkney addressed the Senate in support of the right of Congress to exclude slavery from the territory of Oregon. He held that slaves could not be carried into Oregon, because it being free territory, they would immediately become emancipated. Slaves were property nowhere out of the slave-holding States.

On motion of Mr. Atherton, the Fortification Bill was taken up for consideration.

Mr. Underwood offered as an amendment to the bill, an appropriation of $30,000, for repairing the Cumberland Road, which was rejected by a vote of yeas 8, nays 29.

The bill was then read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Baldwin moved that the Senate go into Executive Session, which was agreed to. On the doors being re-opened, the Senate adjourned.

On the 30th, Mr. Westcott obtained leave to introduce a bill authorizing the Postmaster General to employ the usual steamers to carry the mail to and from the various seaports of the U. States. Read twice and referred to the Committee upon the Post Office.

Mr. Johnson, of Louisiana, offered a resolution calling upon the Secretary of War for information in regard to the necessity of fortifying Proctor's Landing, in the defence of New Orleans. Agreed to.

The bill allowing further time for the location of the Virginia Military Land Warrants, was passed.

On motion of Mr. Jefferson Davis, ten thousand copies of Lieut. Emory's notes of the route in California, were ordered to be printed.

On motion of Mr. Dix, the bill for the repeal of the pilot laws was taken up for consideration. Mr. Dix spoke at some length in its favor.

Mr. Dayton was to have the floor upon the subject on the following day, the subject having been laid aside informally for that day.

On the 1st inst., Mr. Davis, of Mississippi, presented the report of Capt. Roberts, of the Mississippi rifleman, respecting the flag raised by him in the City of Mexico, and recently presented to the United States Senate by General Twiggs. A debate sprung up, in which Messrs. Foote and Davis, of Mississippi, Butler, of South Carolina, and Borland, of Arkansas, participated, respecting the claims of sundry officers to the honor of having raised the first flag, or ordered it to be raised.

After a brief discussion, on motion of Mr. Dayton, of New Jersey, the whole subject was laid on the table.

Mr. Benton, Chairman of the Committee on Military Affairs, reported a bill from the House repealing the act requiring the President to reduce the number of generals at the close of the war, with amendments, in favor of retaining sundry officers, such as majors, surgeons, assistant surgeons, assistant adjutants, general quartermasters and paymasters in the service, until 4th of March next, and also in favor of giving three months' extra pay to all officers, and non-commissioned officers, musicians and privates that have been or may be honorably discharged, which was adopted unanimously.

Mr. Beverdy Johnson's resolution to print 10,000 additional copies of the memorial of the Chicago Convention, was negatived.

Mr. Bright gave notice that he would move that the final vote on the Oregon Bill be taken on the 12th of July.

After some unimportant business, Mr. Downs moved that the Senate go into Executive Session, which was agreed to, and subsequently adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

On the 27th, Mr. McIlvaine reported a bill for the organization of Indian Territories west of the Mississippi, which was read twice and referred to the Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Embree introduced a bill granting lands in the State of Indiana, for the construction of the New Albany Railroad to the Wabash River. Read twice and referred to the Committee of the Whole.

The bill authorizing the State of Texas to extend her boundary line to the 32d degree of North latitude was then taken up and passed.

The bill from the Senate for the relief of bona fide settlers on the Public Lands in the State of Florida, was then taken up and passed.

On the 28th, Mr. Andrew Stewart moved to suspend the rules in order to offer a resolution, calling upon the President for information respecting the amount of extra allowance tendered to Mr. Case, while Governor of the Northwestern Territory.

Amendments were proposed to include the amount paid to Gen. Taylor for the introduction of blood hounds from Cuba.

Objections were made to the resolution, and it was passed over, Mr. Stewart giving notice that he should call it up at another time.

Mr. Meade offered a resolution calling upon the Postmaster General to furnish the amount of revenue received from each State for the last ten years, which was adopted.

On motion, it was ordered that 10,000 copies of Mr. Strohm's majority report, together with the minority report of Mr. Bedinger, on the Contingent Expenses of the Treasury, be printed.

Mr. Rockwell, of Connecticut, offered a resolution that the same Committee be authorized to make another thorough examination of the Treasury accounts, loans, treasury notes, &c., and have power to send for persons and papers, which was adopted by a decisive vote.

On the 29th, Mr. Hammons moved a re-consideration of the vote by which the resolution to pay arrearages due to Col. Yell was passed. Upon this motion an interesting debate sprang up, in which Messrs. Westbrook, Johnson, of Arkansas, Hammons, Tompkins, Cocke, Schenck, Richardson and others participated.

Mr. Cocke moved to lay the resolution upon the table, which was carried.

Mr. Smith, of Indiana, submitted a bill to surrender to Indiana the portion of the Cumberland Road within that State. The bill was discussed by several members, and after being read twice, was referred to the Committee on Roads and Canals.

The resolution that the monument to be erected in the Congressional Burial Ground in memory of Ex President Adams, be constructed of Quincy granite, was then taken up.

Mr. Andrew Johnson spoke at some length in opposition to the proposition, and the expensive funeral ceremonies bestowed upon the deceased.

Mr. Woodward moved to lay the resolution upon the table. Carried.

On motion of Mr. Vinton, the House went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Reed in the Chair, and resumed the consideration of the General Appropriation Bill.

Mr. Pollock spoke against the Administration and its whole policy.

Mr. French followed in an argument upon the rights of the Territories.

On the 30th, on motion of Mr. Vinton, the House went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Root in the Chair, and resumed the consideration of the bill making appropriations for the Civil and Diplomatic expenses of the Government.

Joseph R. Ingersoll made a political speech, censuring the Administration for the frequent diplomatic appointments and changes that have occurred since the inauguration of Mr. Polk. He also introduced the claims of Gen. Taylor to the Presidency.

Mr. Thompson, of Kentucky, followed upon the same side.

Mr. Bocock next made a speech upon the subject of territorial rights, and Mr. Mann followed on the same topic, though he took opposite grounds.

On the 1st inst., Mr. Vinton, of Ohio, moved that the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, and take up the Civil and Diplomatic Appropriation Bill, which was agreed to, Mr. Root, of Ohio, in the chair.

Mr. Toombs, of Georgia, being entitled to the floor, made a political speech, and proceeded to expound Taylor Whig principles, and to lay down a Taylor platform, and to correct the platform of the Democratic party.

He made a warm appeal for the preservation of the Union, and deprecated the acquisition of territory. That was the way for the North to stop the extension of slavery.

Mr. McClelland read a defence of Mr. Case relative to the moneys received while Governor of the Indian territory. He said he received no more than his d. s, as his experience of Indian affairs rendered his services valuable. Gen. Scott and others testified to the fact that others had received similar pay for the same kind of services. He also replied to Mr. Stewart's speech.

Mr. Cobb, of Georgia, made a reply, during which he was interrupted, on leave, and interrogated by Messrs. Holland and Schenck. Mr. Floyd, of Virginia, followed in a speech of about half an hour, when the Committee rose and the House adjourned.

Items of News.

SENSE FOREIGN.—"Two or three weeks since," says the *Boston Courier*, "an actor in one of our theatres was buttoning up a pair of tights, to go on in his part, when he felt something prick him under the waist-band. He threw them open as soon as possible, when a large black spider fell upon the floor, which he killed. The poison of the wound spread over a surface of several inches, causing sickness, and the detention of the performer from his duties ever since; but, by judicious medical treatment, he is recovering."

MORE DISTINGUISHED FOREIGNERS.—The brig Allen, Capt. Williams, which arrived at this port on Friday, from the West Coast of Africa, brought home an enormous Boa Constrictor and a female Gorang Gutang. The Boa is twenty-eight feet in length, and, during the passage, produced in a single night, sixty eggs, the aggregate weight of which was forty-eight pounds!—*Salem Register, June 26.*

A CAUTION TO HOUSEKEEPERS.—A family in Lancaster county were, a few days since, made very ill by eating a sponge cake flavored too highly with "peach water." We beg our young housekeepers to beware how they use this very agreeable and common addition to pies, confectionary, &c., as it is but a mild form of that deadly poison *Prussic acid.*

DEPRECIATION OF PROPERTY IN EUROPE.—As an instance of the rapid depreciation of property in Europe since the recent Revolutionary movements, it is stated that at a sale of one of the largest wearing establishments at Ghent, which six years ago let at a yearly rental of $1,000 francs, (about $16,000) it had realized only $1,000 francs, or about $4,000.

MADAME RESTELL.—This notorious female will have to go to the Penitentiary after all. The Court of Appeals of New York has approved the conviction and sentence of the Court of Sessions, and ordered that the date of the imprisonment commence with that of the decision, not withstanding she has been in jail for seven months.

PRETTYING THE THEATRE.—The Broadway Theatre has a new ventilating apparatus in it, which by means of steam power throws 3,000 feet of fresh air into the theatre per minute! By putting an ounce of cologne water into the apparatus, the whole theatre (they say) is made delightfully fragrant.

ALL STOPPED.—All the bagging factories in the Western country have stopped, according to written agreements among themselves, for sixty days. The cause of this is the exception of bagging in the market, and the high price of hemp.

☞ There is so much excitement in England in regard to the unhealthiness of burying grounds in large towns, that it is probable they will be abolished as every year in England. A crowded burying ground in a large city is believed to be a fruitful cause of disease and death.

BOARD OF HEALTH.—The number of deaths during the last week in this city was 356—adults 56, and children 150.

Selected Sketch.

DANISH JUSTICE.

FROM CHAMBER'S EDINBURGH JOURNAL.

The war had broken out between England and France; Bonaparte had broken the treaty of Amiens; all was consternation amongst our countrymen in India, particularly those who had valuable property which was mixed with a degree of gallantry and of devotion which softened the harsher features of his character, and invested him with a certain kind of popularity even among those who were held in constant terror by his name.

Monsieur Argenon was an incomparable Lieutenant General of Police, but in defiance of all his vigilance, Cartouche appeared in the midst of Paris; and at this unwelcome apparition, many families who had not the resource of a country residence at Versailles, prepared to take refuge in their country *chateaux*, although the severity of the winter made such a removal both disagreeable and inconvenient. They found, however, that safety was not to be secured by flight, for Cartouche, at the head of forty or fifty men, attacked the Cardinal of Bourges, as he was passing through the outlets of Paris, on his way to Bourges. It is true that he dealt gently with the Cardinal, having deprived him only of his Episcopal cross and Pontifical ring, together with ten louis d'ors, which were found in his purse; a purse L. rabin-ed beneath, as the cook, a swarthy, ill-looking Portuguese, who had managed somehow or other daily to cause some disturbance amongst the seamen. For this he had often been reprimanded; and the evening when this sketch opens, he had just been released from irons, into which he had been ordered for four-and-twenty hours, by the chief mate, for having attempted to poison a sailor who had offended him. In return for having punished him thus severely, the irritated Portuguese swore to revenge himself on the first officer.

The mate, who was called Charles, was walking in the waist with a beautiful young English girl, to whom he was engaged to be married, stopping occasionally to admire the flying-fish, as they skimmed over the surface of the water, pursued by their cruel destroyer, talking over the anticipated bliss their union would confer, their hopes and fears, the approval of their parents, their bright prospects, indulging in future scenes of life, as steady as the trade-wind before which they were quietly running—when suddenly, ere a soul could interpose, or even suspect his design, the cook rushed forward and buried his knife with one plunge into the heart of the unfortunate young man, who fell without a cry, as the exulting Portuguese burst forth into a demoniac laugh of triumph.

Unconscious of the full extent of her bereavement, the poor girl hung over him; and as a friend who had rushed forward to support him, drew the knife from his bosom, her whole dress which was white, was stained with his blood. With an effort Charles turned towards her, gave her one last look of fervent affection, and as the blade left the wound, fell a corpse in the arms of him who held him.

By this time the captain had come on deck. He shed tears like a child, for he loved poor Charles as his own son. The exasperated crew would instantly have fallen on the assassin, and taken summary vengeance, so truly attached had they been to the deceased; but the officers, with the usual bounds by their commander's presence. The cook, who appeared to glory in his deed, was instantly seized and confined. The corpse was taken aft, and the stain scrubbed out of the deck by the officers, the crew being ordered to keep within

Selected Poetry.

BROTHERS! WE ARE MEN!

BY JAMES HENDERSON.

We are men—made in the image
Of the mighty One
Who hath crowned the earth with beauty,
Hath the golden sun,
Children of a common Father,
Whose prevailing love
Is unbounded as the day-beams
Shining from above.
Higher! rank in God's creation
Is our station, then!
From divine is our descent
Unless we all meet on equal ground—
Brothers! we are one!

In our souls the lamp of reason
Burneth with hallowed light,
Intellectual glories round us
Shed their radiance bright.
Thus ennobled in our being,
'Tis the will of Heaven
That we village on improving
Gifts which He hath given
Filling up our brief existence
Threescore years and ten,
Loving virtue as a mother,
Doing good to one another—
Brothers! we are men!

We are men; but oh how often
Are our gifts debased,
And the dignity of manhood
Blindly sacrificed!
Oft is mercy's fountain frozen
In the human breast
Minions hold beneath the throne
Tearful and oppressed,
Cries of sorrow lonely echo
Over hill and glen;
Hapless thousands wildly grieving,
No kind hand their wrongs relieving—
Brothers! we are men!

Love's the human wisdom teaches,
Gentle are her words,
Sweeter than the brooklet's murmurs,
And the song of birds
As we all are fellow-pilgrims
To a brighter sphere,
Why should strife attend the moments
Of our sojourn here?
For a higher purpose truly
Were we fashioned, when
Deity in fairest traces
Crowned our souls with heavenly graces—
Brothers! we are men!

Why should idle passions chest us
Of our purest joy?
Why should pride the best emotions
Of the breast destroy?
In the heart affection's fountain,
Sweetly welling up,
Seeks to mingle peerless blessings
Ever in life's cup.
Let its waters flow and mingle
For as human kin,
Till with love's serene devotion
Earth be covered as the ocean—
Brothers! we are men!

A Leaf from History

FROM THE UNION MAGAZINE.

THE DUEL.

A PASSAGE FROM HISTORY

BY MRS. C. H. BUTLER.

How many anecdotes rife of the humor of "Old Put," (General Putnam) the page of history has transmitted to those for whose freedom he fought with such iron power and single-hearted purpose!

Linked with many incidents in his heroic life, and traits marking the great self-possession—the quiet humor, and love of the ludicrous, which seem to have been inherent with his courageous daring. Could any one have looked into the breast of the brave old soldier as he galloped so fearlessly down the dangerous pass at Horse Neck, snapping his fingers at the discomfited foe—ten to one it would be found his scene of the ludicrous at the moment overcame all other emotions, and that a quiet smile at his Gilpin descent even then flashed over his warrior visage! Just so in many other instances, doubtless already well known to the readers of the "Union."

Although but a young man when he first took up arms under General Lyman, at the breaking out of the old French war, and in which for ten years he served with undaunted bravery, encountering scenes with ruthless savagism which might well appal the stoutest heart—rapidly rising to fame and honor—winning laurels to his brow, and the love and respect of his brave compatriots, and then after a few brief years spent in the peaceful pursuits of agriculture, again girding on the sword and rushing to the field in defence of his country, he shed fast to one noble trait of character, through all omifying scenes of blood and carnage in which so large a portion of his valuable and creatial life was passed, and for which alone his name, under the circumstances in which he was often placed, deserves Fame's chapter. *I allude to his otherwise of dwelling.*

This insulated system of murder—this refined process of despatching one's friends to the other world, be regarded with the most perfect detestation, not, I believe, in any one instance, did he evert sanction or conform to this mis-named *code of honor*. If he ever accepted a challenge, it seemed for the purpose of keeping contempt and ridicule both upon the challenger and the appointed practice. No one for a moment dared impugn his courage, and therefore the cool contempt he manifested was probably more galling to the challenger than the keenest sabre—more galling than a brace of bullets!

It was during the campaign of 1779, Washington had established his head-quarters at West Point, while General Putnam was stationed with several bodies of troops at Buttermilk Falls, about two miles below. At this period, the fortifications at West Point were constructed under the supervision of Putnam, and in one of the forts the gallant hero also gave his name. It is now but a ruin, yet, (kind Heaven, be built himself a monument in the hearts of his countrymen, which shall endure as long as the mountains in which these stirring scenes were enacted!

It chanced, one day, General Putnam made some remark within hearing of an English officer, then a prisoner on parole, in which he reflected somewhat severely upon the character of the British. The officer received the remark as a personal insult, and immediately send the Green challenge.

Fatigued with his arduous duties, Putnam had retired to his quarters. Bathing by plentiful ablations the dust and heat of a day's toil, amid the fastnesses of West Point, and after partaking of such simple refreshment as the times afforded, he had just seated himself at the door of his hut, and being his brow in the cool, delicious breeze sweeping up from the river, was invigorating his weary frame with the luxury of a pipe. At this moment the challenge of the English officer was handed him. Putnam glanced his keen eye over the manner, and impatiently throwing it down, exclaimed:

"Challenged, by ——! Challenged, eh!—why the fellow is a greater fool than I took him to be—well, well, I'll burnt the puppy!"

Then coolly finishing his pipe, he called his pet and ink—accepted the challenge—appointed the place of meeting—fixed on early hour the following morning. After despatching a messenger to the quarters of the Englishman, he strolled around the barracks, inspecting the garrison stores, &c.—Among these were several barrels or casks, filled with stones, at sight of which a new idea appeared to strike the humorous General. He immediately ordered one of these to be transported to an adjoining field, and placed in a particular spot which he pointed out the soldiers.

At one of an early hour of a glorious day, in the beautiful month of October, that the British officer took his way over the fields, to his murderous errand. The dew lay thick and heavy on the short grass, young in the bright autumn flowers, and the gay foliage of the forest wore already a festival tint. Tyrian robes, while from every branch, from hedge row and thicket, the birds cut by their cheerful songs. Far down below, calm and silvery, lavished the waters of the Hudson, and the mountain peaks relieved with the notes of the bugle and the echoing of the drum, heralding the reveille. But the Englishman had no heart for the glorious scene—perhaps not at its core, and to him the blood of his foe seemed sweeter than the breath of morning.

As he drew near the place of meeting, he perceived his antagonist already on the ground, and seriously, for one whose moments were perhaps already numbered, he deemed to be taking it very cool. Seated on a low camp stool, beneath the wide spreading branches of a large sycamore, was "Old Put." The officer feeling on the top of a barrel—on top reciprocally stretched out, and with half closed eyes, comfortably enjoying his favorite pipe. The officer advanced somewhat hastily, amazed at the coolness of one whose life hung on the cast of a bullet. Not until within a few feet of Putnam did the latter take the least notice of him, and then merely with a sight inclination of the head, motioning him to take the seat on the opposite side of the barrel. At the head of the barrel there was a small opening, in which a switch had been inserted; and no sooner was the officer seated, than Putnam proceeded to ignite it with his pipe, coolly remarking as he did so—

"You see, gentlemen, I take some chance for both of us!" resumed his smoking.

The Englishman was horrified. He could face danger on the battle-field—he could, without shrinking, have his breast to the bullet of the foeman—but to be blown to—annihilated at midnight, in "this way," by an unknown like and unknown a mode of warfare, was more than his courage could dare. Like Job Asrae, he felt it rapidly oozing out at his finger ends—yet honor forbade retreat. According to the challenge's code, he must abide by the decision of Fortune, who had his chance of weapons, and, good humoured, what had the daring, reckless Yankee chosen—a *barrel of gunpowder*—for such was evidently the contents of the cask; and with feelings unutterable, he watched the slow ignition of the match, and the gradual down-creeping of that flame, which in a few moments would probably send him to eternity!

As the fire reached the opening, there was a loud, rumbling sound—a slight explosion, accompanied by a strange odor. Brave as he was, the officer could endure no more.

"By ——! I'll not be murdered in this manner!" he exclaimed, precipitately rising he made good his retreat.

"Ha! ha! brave sir," shouted Putnam, coolly knocking the ashes from his pipe; "you are just the man I took you for—this is but a barrel of onions you mistake for powder, with a few grains scattered on top to try you by—*but I see you don't like the smell!*"

Some twenty years since, there resided in the pretty little village of Peekskill, an aged couple, who used to relate this anecdote with great apparent satisfaction—the good men especially was always unusually elevated at such recitals, while his dame would laugh merrily, and as she tapped her well-worn snuff-box, slyly cry:

"Ah! ha! John—man—if it had not been for them setters, the messy knows, you might have lost a good wife!"

Among the soldiers of the Pennsylvania corps, attached to General Putnam's division, it seems was this same John D——, a worthy man and a brave soldier. While stationed at Buttermilk Falls, it was his good luck to rescue the pretty daughter of a worthy woman, residing in the neighborhood, from the insults of a party of marauders. She had gone to a distant field to drive home her cow, and while leisurely pursuing her way with old Brindle, suddenly encountered a gang of reckless soldiery. Their aim was probably only to frighten her a little, which they did so effectually, that her screams rent the air and reached the ears of the brave John D——, who happened to be passing near. Bounding to the spot, and seeing an unprotected female struggling to free herself from the arms of a rough soldier, he rushed in, dealing blows heavy and fast to the right and left. A boisterous shout of mirth greeted his prowess, while the fellow who still held the almost fainting damsel exclaimed:

"*Damy* me, you needn't hit so hard. Here is your gal, blast me, if I want her—a squeamish, squalling vixen!" And with another laugh, the party wheeled off, leaving pretty Patty in the arms of her gallant champion.

From that moment a tend—affection sprung up between the soldier and the rustic maiden—a fact which greatly pleased the old lady; and it was agreed, that as soon as the wars were over, John and Patty should be made one, and settle quietly down on the widow's little farm.

Alas! that an epaulette should outweigh the honest professions of *John!*

Patty was a fine, buxom lass, very pretty, and withal, something of a coquette, and chanced, unluckily for her lover, to attract the notice of the gallant Captain ——, of His Majesty's service, but now a prisoner on parole at West Point.

To relieve probably the tedium of so inglorious a life, the Captain began making love to pretty Patty, and the poor girl, I am sorry to say, was completely dazzled by the admiration of the great English officer. His flattery fascinated and bewildered her imagination. To fresh brown roses, or the sunny side of a downy peach, he compared her ruddy cheeks—her eyes he likened to the stars of heaven, or the diamond studs in his shirt bosom—her lips were as coral, as red-ripe cherries, as the scarlet flowering bean—her teeth were pearls, and her light flaxen hair he compared to sunbeams, quivering through the tendrils of the wild grape. Albeit, these last were *green*—what matter—flattery to frequently blinds to absurdity, and others, with more knowledge of the world than poor Patty, have been greener than grape vines in laying the flatter's "notation to their souls."

How the simple language of honest John D——pallied before the high flown tirade of the gallant captain! Fine words—"marvellous fine words" to Patty!

This sudden change in her conduct perplexed poor John sadly—tossing her pretty head, and giving herself so many new airs, as she did! Her mother was not less puzzled, and being a firm believer in witchcraft, the good woman was fully convinced that old Meaty White, who lived at the crossing of the four roads, had certainly bewitched her daughter. To counteract, therefore, the baleful influence, she hung horse shoes around the door-planted three hairs from a black cat's back crossways up the chimney—and baited the sleeping form of Patty in dew gathered by moonlight from a peppy's cup—but all would not do—the witch only seemed to gain faster hold of poor Patty.

No man was ever more beloved than General Putnam by his soldiery; not one but would have laid his heart's blood cheap in defence of his commander, and of these John D——ranked as warm as the rest. Now it happened that John heard the remark of his General, which gave so much offence to the British officer, and was also aware that a challenge had been sent, and, as he thought, not accepted. Unknown to his commander, he had stealthily followed "Old Put" to the dwelling ground, and concealing himself behind the thick foliage of a tree, narrowly watched the proceedings, resolving, that if the officer had the temerity even to sum at his honored master, he would himself blow the fellow's brains out! As the rich scene developed itself, honest John could scarce restrain his glee, and nothing but the dread of his General's displeasure stifled the hearty "ho! ho! ho!" of the serious spy. Humble soth! away from the scene, and related the whole affair to the good dame and the infatuated Patty; the latter recognized at once her gallant admirer in the discomfited captain. She was not proof against the ridicule now attached to his name; and the spell of witchcraft which neither "poppy nor mandragora" could subdue, yielded at once to the *power of an onion coat!*

Patty returned to her allegiance, and, in due time, was married to her faithful John. Covered with honorable gashes, the brave fellow lived to good old age, surrounded by children and grandchildren, on the shady banks of the Hudson.

☞ Mr. Caldwell, in addressing a class of medical students at the West, said:—"But screw your courage down to the starting point, and you cannot fail. Be determined, and like the soldier going into battle, let every one resolve to kill his man."

Wit and Humor.

THREE POEMS IN A POEM.—I led the horse to the stable, when a fresh perspicuity arose. I removed the harness without difficulty, but, after many strenuous attempts, I could not remove the collar. In despair, I called for assistance, when out came dear Jane. Mr. Wordsworth brought his sagacity into exercise, but, after several unsuccessful efforts, he relinquished the achievement, as being altogether impracticable. Mr. Coleridge now tried his hand, but showed an more groaning still than his predecessors; for after twisting the poor horse's neck almost to strangulation, and the great danger of his eyes, he gave up the useless task, pronouncing that the horse's head must have grown by good or bad magic into the collar was yet "to be." he said: "it was a down-right impossibility for such a huge *as frantic* to pass through so narrow a collar!" Just at this instant a servant girl came near, and understanding the cause of our consternation, "La, master," said she, "why don't you put the thing in the right way, then should do like this?" when, turning the collar completely upside down, she slipped it off in a moment, to our great humiliation and wonderment! such subdued afresh that there were heights or soundings in the world to which we had not yet attained.—*Cottle's Life of Coleridge.*

INTERESTING RESEARCH.—In a certain town of "Down East," some forty years since, there lived a singular family by the name of W——. The father and sons were at that time an intemperate, profane, and fighting set of fellows; and the females of the family, from the infant up to a bouncing man-her, were not slow at scratching and pulling hair! Their manners, as a natural consequence, were, to their best friends, coarse, boisterous and vulgar.

One day, while Sabbath is her mother, while people were passing directly by the house on their way to church, the female of the family, male and female, from an adjoining room, rode up to the house, each seated upon a saddled horse. As the cavalcade drew up to the door, Mr. W., in great apparent surprise and anxiety at the unexpected call, rushed out of the house, and up to her female friend, with hands uplifted, and well filled lungs, exclaiming:

"Why you blessed sister you are unharnessed comp! *You came in unexpectedly I'm a good mind to take my hat and travel you right down!*"

LAUGHING.—A few days since an Irish beggar addressed a respectable inhabitant of Taunton, as follows:—

"Good morning, my honor, and is it yourself that is the place to be kind enough to give me a cheap cut?"

The reply of the person appealed to was that he hadn't one.

"And is it yer mother?," sound the Irishman, "that would be kind enough to go and and that gentleman for one for me?"

Finding that it was not himself who would do anything of the sort, Paddy walked off.

THE UNCOMPREHENSIBLE JOKE.—During the time that Sir Thomas Manro was Lord Chancellor of England, a gentleman, who had a suit pending before him sent him a present of two silver flagons. The Chancellor immediately gave orders to his servants to fill them with the best wine in his cellar, and carry them back to the gentleman, and tell him that it gave him much pleasure to have an opportunity of obeying him, and that when the flasks were empty he should be welcomed to have them filled again.

☞ "Where does the sun set?" "He sets in the west, sir." "What does he set in the West for?" "To hatch out another day."

☞ "Why is Louis Philippe's name like the food of the French nation?" "Because it is a huge *pie*!"—*Punch.*

Amusing Sketch.

"CHILDREN HALF PRICE."

One of the most difficult questions that bothered our boyhood, and, we suppose, a majority of our readers were similarly embarrassed, was as to the exact meaning and limitations of the phrase, "Children Half Price." When our boyish fancy was inflamed to a fever heat, by a glance at the attractive circus bill, filled with delightfully exciting pictures of intrepid equestrians, standing on the big top of one foot, on the apex of the blind quarter of a milk white or beautifully spotted courser, or of beast-mouthed clowns hitching up their hats into double-bow knots, or of ground and lofty tumblers making rings of themselves, turning double somersaults and reversing the order of nature by walking on their backs—when all these delightful and attractive pictures used to catch our young eyes, and inflame our curiosity and imagination, we were destined to experience a melancholy collapse, by reading at the bottom of these showy placards those unhelpful and ambiguous but monotonous words—"*Children Half Price.*" What was the meaning of these words? This was a puzzling and perplexing question. Did they refer to the size of the age, the dress or the beating of applicants for admission—was the word "children" used in its generic sense, as to denote all who were possessed of childish qualities, or in its specific sense, denoting those members of the human family whose years were few, not those whose years were long? Did it include those who, though children in years, were men in spirit, and *vice versa?* These have proved puzzling questions to all youths.

But the difficulty is still greater when the term is applied to young ladies. So it appeared in a case which was lately tried there, not far from this city. A lady keeping a boarding house had in the advertisement of her terms, this common but enigmatical phrase, "Children Half Price." A gay widower who having his eye on a "second venture" was desirous of keeping up by every device in his power the pleasant delusion of "middle age fresness," had a daughter not far from "sweet sixteen," whom he placed at the boarding-house where "children were entertained at half price." After the young lady had been at the boarding-house for some time, the widower asked for his bill, when lo! and behold! imagine his surprise to find his little darlin, his mere little tiddy-boddy of a daughter, put down at the full price of adult boarders. He was shocked, horrified, indignant and stupified at this extraordinary proceeding. Going immediately to his looking-glass, and seizing his brush and arranging his hair and whiskers, he apostrophized himself thus: "Mo, the father of a young lady—of a grown up female—of a marriageable, full-sized, full-appetited, fort-tabled, full-bosomed female woman! It is preposterous! an imposition! I'll stand a suit before I'll pay it!"

The ambitious widower was as good as his word. He stood a suit, denying *in toto* the plaintiff's claim. Learned lawyers were employed on both sides, and the question came up before Justice Bright, a magistrate noted for his strong, sensible, practical views of matters. What constituted a young lady?—and what was the meaning of the phrase "children half price" were the points at issue.

To determine the first question, a gallant and accomplished young friend of ours, a relation of one of the most exalted characters in our nation, was called on to give his testimony, and a most searching examination did he stand with inflexible composure. The following were some of the questions put to him, and his answers:

Do you know the defendant's daughter, Miss Angelina Ann?

Ans.—I know that honor.

What is she?

Ans.—A young lady.

What do you mean by a young lady?

Ans.—A respectable youthful female.

Do you consider her a child?

Ans.—No.

The plaintiff here very complacently closed his case; and the defendant commenced his cross-examination.

What do you mean by a child?

Ans.—A young female human being.

What constitutes the distinction between a young lady and a young female human being?

Ans.—Why, a young female human being wears pinafores, long frocks, check aprons, eats large quantities of bread and molasses, giggles at boys, lugs wax dolls, and plays "pose in the corner," and "chickeemy, chickeemy, craney crow"—while a young lady carries her hair done up behind, reads Byron and Bulwer, wears balaniceas from Madame Voizin's, carries parasolettes, casts her eyes down at the sight of young gentlemen, has a small appetite, chiefly confined to salads and sweetmeats, and generally, when there's room enough, sits at the first table.

This answer was objected to—the witness being asked to determine a strict question of law, which belonged to the judge to decide. It was contended, however, that, as a matter of technical opinion of a man of science in matters relating to his profession, the evidence was admissible.

"But," impatiently asked the defendant, "I wish to know of you, as a man of honor, if you consider my daughter, Angelina Ann, a young lady?"

Ans.—As a man *of gallantry* I am bound to say yes.

The Judge here rebuked the witness by informing him that it was a naked question of fact, presented to him, and he must answer according to his judgment and knowledge, and not according to his sense of gallantry.

"Well," replied the witness, "I think Miss Angelina Ann is a young lady."

"Why, my daughter!" remarked the complaisant and youthful widower, "she is a mere child!"

Ans.—That is because you look upon her through such youthful eyes.

What then is your reason for saying that she is a young lady?

Ans.—Well, if you will have it, I'll tell you. Miss Angelina Ann and I have taken sundry moonlight strolls, (at this announcement the defendant lifted his eyes and hands in astonishment and horror,) when if she had been a child she should have been at home in her juvenile couch; and during those walks she frequently quoted from Moore's Melodies, Byron's Childe Harold, and sang very sweetly, too, "Oft in the still night," "Come reign in this honor," and "I dream't that I dwelt in marble halls."

"Is that all the proof you have of her being a young lady?" exclaimed defendant.

"No," replied the witness, "I have more. She sat at the same table with me. I observed that a nice dish of boiled cabbage and onions was placed opposite to her every day, and I never could persuade her to touch them. It is a fixed opinion of mine, that any individual of the feminine gender who will not touch onions stewed in butter, and nice *boiled cabbage*, is an indubitable, unquestionable, indisputable, downright young lady."

The defendant here gave up his case in despair, the Judge looked satisfied, and the plaintiff's attorney, gathering up his books and papers, retired with a quiet smile of exultation on his parchment countenance. Thus have our courts established a complete test and standard by which there will not in future be any doubt, as far as females are concerned, for the true meaning of the phrase—"*Children Half Price.*"—*N. O. Delta.*

Selected Articles.

SCRAPS.

The following fact we take from a recent work by a physician. A mother who was uneasy about the health of a child who was out at nurse, dreamed that it had been buried alive. The horrid thought woke her; and she determined to set off for the place without a moment's delay. On her arrival she learned that after a sudden and short illness, the child had died, and had just then been buried. Half frantic from this intelligence, she insisted upon the grave being opened, and the moment the coffin was uncovered, she carried off the child in her arms. He still breathed, and maternal cares restored him to life. The truth of this anecdote has been warranted—we have seen the child so emotionally surprised—he is now, in 1848, a man in the prime of life, and filling an important post.

The other day some of the workmen on the new hotel in Fleshing, New York, were in want of a short ladder, when it was recollected that there were two spliced together and standing against the building. Two Irishmen were detailed to transplace the ladders. Instead of lowering them to the ground, and there performing the work, they ascended, and upon the upper ladder commenced the operation of unloosening the fastenings. In the consequence may be easily foreseen. The upper ladder, with two men of St. Patrick upon it, came down "Ker thump," landing Teddy and Pat into a bed of mortar below, very happily causing them no other injury than a severe fright. The idea of standing on the lower ladder, did not strike them until they struck their heads in the mortar.

A small crowd gathered before a window, recently, to admire the figure of a cat which was there, as if for public inspection. Nearly every one was delighted with its inkelinous lie—"—Not still," said Augustus, "there are faults in it! it is far from perfect, observe the defect in the foreshortening of that paw, now; and the expression of the eye, too, is bad; besides, the mouth is too far down under the chin, while the whiskers look as if they were coming out of her ears. It is too short, too,"—but, as it to elevate this defect, the figure stretched itself and rolled over in the sun. "It is a cat, I vow," said a bystander. "It is *alive!*"—chuckled an urchin, clapping his hands. "Why, it's only a cat, after all," said Mrs. Partington, as she surveyed it through her specs; but Augustus moved on, disappointed that nature had fallen so far short of his ideas of perfection in the manufacture of cats.

THE MARRIED FOLKS' NEW LETTER-WRITER.

The Philadelphia Dispatch thinks that the new law securing to married women their rights to property, is destined to revolutionize the hymeneal relations in this state. The rich wife, instead of being now at the mercy of her lord, in a thousand matters to her comfort, may rightly enforce a performance of the courting-time vows, by simply tightening the purse-strings. Shawls, bonnets, and new dresses, she may buy as many as she pleases, whether her husband grumbles or no—wrote; and, if unable to pay, she may enjoy the delightful privilege of a personal introduction to sheriffs and constables.

The subject is suggestive of many thoughts, and among them is one touching the changes that will now cause in marital epistolary literature. The modern complete letter-writers have no provision for this emergency, and the Dispatch hastens to supply the vacuum. We deem it important to copy a few specimens of these model epistles. Here they are:

LETTER 1.—*From a husband to his wife, asking for a cool flip.*

"From the store, Market street—
"14 o'clock.

"Dear Jane—I'm confoundedly 'short' to day, having Jenkins' notes to take up, and am decently afraid of a protest. Please send me a check for $50 by bearer. I expect money from Muddle's draft, next week, and will then refund it. I wait.

"Your dearest, CHARLES."

LETTER 2.—*From a wife, who knows her rights, to a delinquent husband.*

"At home—quarter before two.

"Dear Charles—I am ashamed that you should come to me for money, after the manner you have acted. I loosed you ten dollars last week, which you were to return next day. I did not hear a word from you for three days afterwards. Besides that, I gave you fifty cents yesterday to get tobacco, which you promised to repay at evening—I have not seen it yet. I should judge, from these facts, that you are 'hard up' and not to be trusted. If you are in failing circumstances, I've no disposition to lose by you. If you are much in want of money, I'll shave your note with a good endorser, at three per cent. a month. If you like this proposition, send up the note with an endorsement—my Shooks's; I suppose he'll endorse for you—you've always together. Let it be done right away, for I've got my bank-book ready, and want to make a deposit.

"Yours, JANE."

LETTER 3.—*The husband's reply.*

"From the store—2 o'clock.

"Dear Jane—This is no time for jesting. If I do not get the $50 to-day, I shall be ruined—my credit will be gone, and everything brought to the hammer. The very house will be sold over our heads. Please send me the money immediately. This is a poor fulfilment of the love you pledged at the altar. Yours, CHARLES."

LETTER 4.—*The wife's answer.*

"At home—quarter past two.

"Dear Charles—as a *friend*, I'm heartily sorry to hear of your troubles. As my husband, it's nothing more than I expected. If you do fail, my advice to you is, to bear up under your sorrows; there is nothing like a stout heart to bear one up in affliction. If the house is sold by the Sheriff, I have one consolation, that I can return to my own. In regard to your unkind insinuation, about the love which I pledged at the altar, I beg to remind you that I promised *to love you according to law*—and the law allows me to manage my own property in my own way. However, as you can't get an endorser, I **won't be hard** with you. Send me a note for $50 at sixty days, and **$100 worth of silver** as collateral, and I'll send you the $50. Hurry home—dinner's waiting.

"Yours, JANE."

LETTER 5.—*From a "respectable" wife to a Tailor.*

"Saturday, May 27.

"Mr. Shears—Sir: The bearer of this is my husband, who wants two pair of spring pantaloons. Please let him have them, and charge the same to my account. SUSAN SILVER.

"N. B.—I'll not pay higher than $12 for the two. If you allow him to exceed that amount, you do so on your own risk. S. S."

WHO DARE TO DIE?

There's a light that shineth, a lamp that burneth
Before the brave,
And he is the sister of Time who taketh
Back from the grave,
Who dare to die for a cause, whether
Right or wrong,
Who dare to die for a cause, whether
Right or wrong,
All under the sun, who have great deeds done,
Will dare to die.

Will the monarch quit his lofty throne,
That mighty thing,
And shrink not to wrestle with Death alone,
A king with king?
Ay, he will dare the chance of the ring,
As well he can,
If he hath lived and himself believed
Lone king than man.

Will the beggar in his rage dare death?
Ay, he will
He (see from fraud when he weepeth with—
Oh pity he!)
I have still fancy darling came behind
Death's door the light,
With a Christian's faith, what is there in Death
That he should dread?

Will the gaudy-plumed warrior fear to die,
Who, hand in hand,
Hath walked with Death, and had heard his sharp cry
On sea and land?
Where Death is so real, he may fear not his brand,
But other the light,
It is well for his corpse if Death never no terror,
When Death is white.

Will the poet or prophet—for both are one—
Like others dare?
Ay, sooth! for his lyre, like the light of the sun,
Shines every where,
And he who gives love tends the fire white star
Towards the sky,
And he may trust, as he spread flight,
"I dare to die."

THE MODEL DAUGHTER.

She comes down early to breakfast. She is always ready for dinner. She darns her own hair, and can undress herself without a servant. She is happy at home, without going to a ball every night. She has not a headache when her papa asks her to sing. She "practices" only when he is out. She does not have her letters addressed to the pastry-cooks, or make a postman of the bonne-maid. She does not read novels in bed. She dresses plainly for church, and returns to luncheon with a good appetite; she calls her mamma "ma," is not perpetually embroidering mysterious braces, or knitting secret purses, or having a Turkish slipper on hand for some anonymous beat in the Gazette. Her fingers are not too proud to mend stocking, or make a pudding. She looks attentively after the linen, and knows her brother's gloves. She is a clever adept in preparing gruel, white wine whey, chicken-broth, beef-tea, and the thousand little household delicacies of a sick room. She is a tender nurse, moving noiselessly about, whispering words of comfort, and administering medicine with an affection that rubs it of half its bitterness. She does not scream at a leech, or faint at the sight of a black beetle. She does not spin poetry, nor swear it in any great quantity. She does not make a confidant of her mamma, or a bugbear of her father at an evening, nor does she skip any of the speeches. She always has the pillow ready to put under his head when he falls asleep. She can behold an officer with womanly fortitude, without falling in love. She does not keep her mother waiting in her at an evening party for "just another waltz." She never contracts a milliner's bill unknown to her parents—"she would die sooner." She never stitched a Red Tuck in her life. She wears above Berlin wool, and crying—one-time—for the moon, is not usually her fate. She knows nothing of crotchets, or "Woman's Mission." She studies housekeeping, is perfect in the common rules of arithmetic, and can tell pretty nearly how many "long acres" go to a pound. She checks the weekly bills, and does not blush if seen in a butcher's shop on a Saturday. She is not continually fretting to go to Paris, or "dying" to see Jenny Lind, nor does she care much about "that love, Mario." She does not take long walks by herself, and come home saying, "I met her by way." She treats her father's guests with equal civility, making no distinction between the gentleman and the tradesman. She is not fond of pulling all the things over a shop merely to try "a paper of pins." She can pass a Mantua-maker's or Modes without stopping. She never dresses in silks or satins the first thing in the morning, nor is she looking out of the window, or admiring herself in the looking-glass all day long. She makes her children's frocks, plays a little at chess and backgammon, and takes a hand at whist occasionally, "anything to please her dear father." She does not send home "lovely" jewellery for her father to look at. She does not lace herself to death, nor take vinegar to make herself thin. She wears thick shoes in wet weather. She has a terrible horror of coquetting. She is kind to the servants, and conceals their little faults from their "Master and Missus." She never puts if scolded, nor shuts herself up in her room to cultivate "the mellow." She is the pet of her "darling papa," and warms his slippers regularly on a winter's night, and lights his candle before going up to bed. She is her mamma's "dear good girl," as is sufficiently proved by her being entrusted with all the keys of the housekeeping. There is terrible crying when she is married, and for days after her absence nothing is heard in the house but regrets and fond praises, and earnest prayers for the happiness of the Mount Benevolence.

THE MODEL GENTLEMAN.

He never looks a book. He has never been known to drink up as a jeebey, or by practical jokes on watermen, or empty door-bags on chimney-scrouge. He shows cross-barred trousers, horticultural scarfs, overgrown pins, and can score a tenderness without a rubber-a-length of gold chain round it. His linen is not illustrated, but beautifully clean. He never does "a little discounting," nor lend his hand to "drying a kite." His aversion for a Goat is softened by pity. He can look at a lady without the aid of an eye-glass. He allows a performer to talk louder than himself at the Theatre, and does not spring on the stage if there is a row at the Opera. He shows a lie as he he does a Sheriff's officer. He is not prodigal of oaths, and is equally sparing of perfume. He does not borrow his English from the stables, and never puts his lips through a dreary fashionable course of lisping. He is not too proud to walk, or to carry an umbrella if it rains, and never walloes with spurs after supper, even in uniform. He never bets beyond his means, and is not fond of playing high at cards. He never ruined a young Baronet—to say nothing worse. He bows scrupulously even to an inferior. He never shrinks from an I. O. U., nor is he afraid of a bill, nor seized with a sudden shortness of memory at the sight of an old friend, whose coat is not so young as it used to be. He has never proved his courageous by fighting a duel, giving satisfaction always in a more gentlemanly way. He pays for his clothes, disdaining to wear his tailor's in consideration for valuable introductions. His horses, too, are his own, and not purchased of his friends by a series of profitable exchanges. He is not madly attached to billiard-rooms, nor is he seen at Casinos. He backs up his conquests in his own heart, and his love-letters in his desk, rarely disclosing either to his most intimate friends. He does not bully his servants, nor talk about "the men and the maids." He cause his father was in trade. He is not obsequious to a lord, nor does he hang on the skirts of the aristocracy, knowing that a man's nobility does not depend entirely upon his title, however old and sanctioned it may be. He travels to enjoy himself, and does not attempt to create the foreigners with English gold or pride. He values a thing, not by its price, but by its real value, and does not blush to drink beer if he is thirsty. He does not think it essential to his reputation to keep late hours, to pull down sign-boards, insult policemen, and besiege toll-keepers, during the night. He has no such violent love for door-knockers as to induce him to collect them. He is not facetious with waiters, or given to knock down a cabman by way of settling a fare. He is not afraid of laughing if he is amused, even in public, or of handing down an old lady with a turban to dinner, or dancing with his wife. He likes quiet, but does not hate children, and thinks a seat in the House of Commons not worth the bribery and the continual riot. He was never the hero of any wager, rolling, running, racing, rowing, eating, or swimming, and does not know a single prize fighter. He is fond of amusements, but does not instal himself at the Opera every night, because it is fashionable. He follows the races, but goes down without a dogcart and a hey-hogby. He is unobtrusive in his dress, and very retired in his jewellery, and has an antipathy for a white hat with a black band, and all those who wear it. He is modest in dress or conversation. He is generous, but does not give grand dinners and expensive suppers to persons he does not know or care about. He lends money, and, if he borrows any, he makes a strange practice of returning it. He rarely "speaks his mind," and, if he does, it is in a manner which delights his husband and wife generally. He is a favorite with the ladies, but does not put too much stock in his politeness, or too much sugar in his compliments. In matters of scandal he is dumb, if not exactly blind. He is fond of his home, he believes half (the kinder half, too,) of what he hears. He is not prejudiced himself, but has a kind tolerance for the prejudices of others. His golden rule is never to hurt the feelings of anybody, or in injure a living creature by word or deed. All his actions, all his sentiments, are shaped to that noble end; and he dies, as he lives, "sans peur et sans reproche." This is the Model Gentleman.—*Punch.*

EXTRACTS FROM THE NEW NOVEL OF "ANGELA."

The new novel, by the author of "Two Old Men's Tales," "Emilia Wyndham," &c., &c., will not merely sustain, but increase the reputation of the great writer. We make one or two extracts from the first chapters:—

TRUE RELIGION.

"Never was piety more free from all the danger which attend upon an enthusiastic temper like hers. Serious, deeply serious, she was—yet free from all that monkish austerity which confounds some forms of seriousness so repulsive. There was no arrogance, no self-righteousness, no comparison with or condemnation of others; there was little profession, and no display.

THE TEENS.

"The teens! that beautiful, mysterious portion of the life of woman, when she seems to live again to a new existence; when the sweet dream of infancy is over, and all its brilliant flowers are faded; when a sense of a higher meaning in the things of this world—a deep teaching of the spirit after the hidden life—has begun to shed rudely a stretching forth of the soul toward the lofty, the generous, the heroic—those whisperings of the heart which tell of a higher destiny preparing, of something grand to be achieved, some great and noble end answered by this existence—this mortal time span, and yet surrendered as it were into our own hands, reveals itself. The teens! sacred interval before the promise, oft-told tale has begun, while life is yet to the young clear eye that which poetry is, or should be—? A more simple, gentle, a more earnest, a more holy, a more absolute variety, than can be found in the nature of things.'

"The teens? Oh, what a gush of promise is there in that first burst of fervent life into flower! But the wind of the desert has passed over the blossoms, and where are they?"

A MOTHER'S RESPONSIBILITY.

"Upon the mother perhaps, most of all, the destiny of the man, as far as human means are to be regarded, depends. Fearful responsibility! and by too many mothers how carelessly, how thoughtlessly, how frivolously, laid aside! or, rather, relinquished (unless discharged)! How carelessly, at the very outset, is the young child left in the nursery, abandoned to the management and training of, at best, an ignorant, inefficient nurse; or too often, far, far worse, to an unprincipled or interested one! From these imperfect indices, to be not the very best of them, at times assisted by those of the footman, groom, and other inhabitants of the stable yard, to be at once handed over to the chance direction of a school—chance direction, I say, for in the best of schools, so much must necessarily depend upon chance—upon chances of observation upon the part of the master—chance companions—chance temptations—chance impressions—that, without a most serious and correct attention to the guiding influences from home, the boy is left exposed to all sorts of false directions, some at which it is amazed, and some at which it is amused.

"Thus he grows up to be a man, imperfect and contradictory; his moral character unformed—his aspirations ill directed—his temper misregulated—his principles unsettled. He enters life an illtrained steed; and the best that can be hoped for him is that the severe rack of disappointment, contradiction, and suffering, will, during the course of his career, supply the omissions of his youth, and train him at last, through much enduring, to that point from which a good education would have started him.

"I think many parents do not sufficiently reflect, when they send their boys to school, upon what the purpose of a school is, and upon what a rational being ought to expect from it. The school is intended to prepare the boy, not for external life, to capacitate him for the world's business; for all that has to do with active communications between fellow men it deals—and it can deal only with outsides. No master, however learned, and however anxious beyond the criterion of his pupils, or can have leisure or opportunity to attend to those finer influences from within, which it is the parent's part to understand and to direct. The inner life—that which, in fact, is the man—must be drawn from those on whom early tender nurse the physical life depended. No one but the son knows how great are the influences the mother possesses over his heart; no one but the mother, perhaps, perfectly knows and understands the son."

ORIGIN OF THE EXCLUSION OF LADIES FROM THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—A bill being under discussion which greatly affected the interests of a noble family of high and extensive connections, the gallteies were daily crowded with the female relatives of the party, many of them, as may be easily imagined, full of the highest possible attractions, as youth, beauty, wit, &c. Upon which a member, who had been up, and begged to put the question to the Speaker, "Whether the credit and character of the House did not most peremptorily require that in all their deliberations they should be free from any undue or extraordinary influence; and whether any of that honorable House could vest their eyes up to the galleries, and say they were so at that moment? He should, therefore, move that the bevy of beauties should immediately retire." The ladies obeyed, and have never been admitted since in the same manner.

BURKE DEFEATED AND PUT TO FLIGHT.—Burke rose in the House with some papers in his hand, upon which he intended to make a motion; when a rough-hewn member started up and exclaimed, "Mr